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The BG News January 9, 2007

Bowling Green State University

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Tuesday

January 9, 2007
Volume 101, Issue 75
WWW.BGNEWS.COM

Suspicious packages cause terrorism scare

The second threat in as many days forces the Port of Miami to investigate its shipments | **Page 7**

Convicted man's family begs the courts

Truck driver convicted of smuggling immigrants awaits possible death sentence | **Page 7**

Farm fresh produce

Some campus dining facilities have made the transition from fries to fresh vegetables | **Page 3**

What you may have missed in Falcon B-Ball

Catch up on both the men and women hoopsters | **Page 7**

Gators win the championship

Last night's game in Arizona ends in a loss for the Buckeyes | **Page 7**



Passengers stranded at sea finally rescued

Fifteen people shared food and water to survive for nine days after their ferry sank | **Page 10**

Volcano spits ash cloud into the sky

Families are forced to pack up and move due to danger of gas and debris | **Page 10**

If you could pick anyone for president, who would it be?



Dennis Twaddle
Freshman, Aviation FTO
"Oprah Winfrey."
| **Page 4**

TODAY
Scattered Flurries
High: 32, Low: 24

TOMORROW
Mostly Sunny
High: 33, Low: 29

College Republicans to bring guitar legend to BG

By Megan Schmidt
Senior Reporter

To the pleasure of some students and the disappointment of others, best-selling author Ann Coulter will not speak at the University this spring.

Instead, rock guitarist Ted Nugent will replace the polarizing pundit at the College Republicans' annual spring speaker event on March 27 in

the Union's Lenhart Grand Ballroom.

Nugent's involvement with the National Rifle Association (NRA) and books like "God, Guns and Rock 'n' Roll" and "Kill It and Grill It" have made him a popular lecturer among conservatives.

The change in speakers came shortly after the College Republicans received news that Coulter could not speak at the

"She just couldn't commit at this time."

Brian Kutzley | College Republican

event this semester due to personal issues.

"She just couldn't commit at this time," Brian Kutzley, co-chair of the College Republicans, said.

After Coulter's decision was announced, the group voted to select a new speaker and ultimately chose Nugent over another possible candidate, judge Kenneth Starr.

Kutzley said the College Republicans will pay Nugent \$25,000 to speak — \$5,000 more than they would have spent to bring Coulter to campus.

However, the YoungAmerica's Foundation will provide a

\$10,000 grant for the event and the College Republicans will also use money earned from campaigning during election season from the Ohio College Republican Foundation to help with expenses.

But the extra fundraising the group may have to do to fund the speaker will be worth the effort, Kutzley said.

See **LEGEND** | Page 2

Students make a break for it

Holiday road trip to Colorado

By Jordan Flower
Staff Photographer



JORDAN FLOWER | THE BG NEWS

DOWNHILL: Sunshine Life Line (above) is one of the several back country runs offered at Steamboat Springs. Nearly 5,000 feet below is the Yampa River and the Steamboat Springs resort.

Every year the BG Outdoor Program led by Director Bryan Cavins heads west of the Mississippi River, west of the central plains and into the mountains for a one week ski and snowboard excursion.

Students may have seen the large posters hanging around campus about the trip. Now \$540 to a college student will almost pay for books for one semester. But 68 students blew their book budget and went to Steamboat Springs, Colo. the week after finals.

"It was a deal," said Cat Stetz, freshman. "I've been out west before and it cost well over a thousand bucks a person."

The trip out

We left on a new coach bus, that had only 11,000 miles as our first driver stated. We had just started on a 25 hour road trip to Colorado which means we wouldn't arrive until Saturday.

"It was really long, but it was worth it," said Bridget Haley, freshman.

We passed through Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska before we got to Colorado. But we only took four different interstate highways to get to Steamboat Springs: I-75 north to I-80/90 all the way across to Denver where we picked up I-76 through the Rabbit Ears Mountain Pass. The pass this time of year is a treacherous series of tunnels and winding highways, but we had no problem traversing

See **COLORADO** | Page 15

Journey to aid New Orleans

By Alaina Buzas
Reporter

My arms are covered in bug bites and bruises, there's dirt under my fingernails, and if I hear the song "Life Is A Highway" one more time, I might scream. But I don't remember a time I've felt this alive.

This was my second time returning home from a New Orleans rebuilding trip this year knowing I'd be going back to the Big Easy.

Days one and two: The big easy or bust

On Friday, Dec. 16, 112 BGSU students and faculty members loaded two charter coaches and began their winter breaks with a day-and-a-half bus ride. We arrived in St. Bernard Parish on Saturday and immediately went to Camp Hope, our home for the week. Just like many of the buildings in the area, high waterlines scarred Camp Hope's walls from post-Katrina flooding. Upon our arrival to Camp Hope, we were given a few guidelines: take quick showers, be up by 6 a.m. and oh, don't flush your toilet paper, place it in the bucket. Welcome to a recovery camp.

Day three: Downtown New Orleans

Blue skies, short sleeves and fresh-squeezed lemonade ... in

See **AID** | Page 14



ALAINA BUZAS | THE BG NEWS

DESTRUCTED: New Orleans continues to suffer from Hurricane Katrina. The barn in the yard behind the Habitat house was still suffering under the weight of a neighboring tree. Like others in the area, the tree had uprooted during the storm and fell on an adjacent building.

War crimes trial continues in the wake of Saddam

By Lauren Frayer
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Saddam Hussein had been dead nine days but his voice resounded through the courtroom yesterday as he and his cousin "Chemical Ali" discussed killing thousands of Kurds in the 1980s, according to audiotapes played at their war crimes trial.

Saddam's physical presence was gone — his chair in the white metal pen where the defendants sit was empty — but his aura still hung over the proceedings against his former regime members.

The trial reconvened for the first time since Dec. 21 and a little more than a week since Saddam was hanged for the killing of 148 Shiites after an assassination attempt in the town of Dujail in 1982.

Meanwhile, new video of Saddam's corpse shortly after the hanging was posted on the Internet. It showed a gaping wound on Saddam's neck, with his head unnaturally twisted at a 90 degree angle to his right.

The video appeared to have been taken with a camera phone, like the graphic video of the hanging which showed guards taunting Saddam in the final moments of his life.

The court's first order of business yesterday was to dismiss all charges against Saddam. His co-defendants — including his cousin Ali Hassan al-Majid, known as "Chemical Ali" — remain in the dock for allegedly killing 180,000 Kurds in the 1980s as Iraq fought a protracted war with Iran.

Prosecutor Munqith al-Faroon aired graphic video during yester-

day's court session of scores of bodies in trucks and in piles on the street, overlaid with a voice purported to be that of al-Majid saying, "I will hit them with chemical weapons."

"Damn the international community if they say anything. I will strike them all with chemical weapons," the voice continued.

Another audiotape had a voice identified as Saddam's warning, "These weapons are only used at my orders." He also reassured colleagues that the weapons "kill by the thousands."

"It will force them out of their homes without water or food. It makes them evacuate their homes naked," the voice said.

In court, Al-Majid described the video as "painful," but said it showed the work of Iranian troops, not Iraqis. As for the audio,

"It will force them out of their homes without water or food. It makes them evacuate their homes naked"

Ali Hassan al-Majid

al-Majid did not deny the voices were his and Saddam's.

The tapes "not only condemn me, but the whole path that I was part of the path of Saddam Hussein," al-Majid said.

Legal experts said they hoped Saddam's six co-defendants would be more forthcoming with the dictator no longer listening.

Legal scholar Tariq Harb said the trial could make more progress without Saddam, who sometimes quietly glared at witnesses, shouted at them, or launched nationalists tirades that got him thrown out of court.

"The trial will be more elastic and easy. It will clarify and expose more facts because Saddam Hussein's disappearance from the dock will encourage other defendants to mention some facts that they were afraid to divulge when he was with them," Harb said.

Also the U.S. military announced the deaths of two more American soldiers yesterday: One from combat wounds in Salahuddin province, which includes Saddam's hometown, and another from small-arms fire north of Baghdad.

See **TRIAL** | Page 2

POLICE BLOTTER

FRIDAY

9:19 a.m.
East Napoleon Road church reported broken into late Thursday night.

10:11 a.m.
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Wallet reported stolen at a North Main Street bar.

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Vehicle reported broken into at a North Grove Street apartment complex.

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6:38 p.m.
Man reported to have been jumped on North Grove Street.

SATURDAY

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1:21 a.m.
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Nicholas A. Boltz, 21, of Woodville, Ohio, arrested for open container of alcohol, failure to use a seatbelt, improper passing and travel and improper passing at Williams and Wooster streets.

2:23 a.m.
Evan D. Connair, 21, of Greenville, Ohio, cited for operating a vehicle while under the influence at Main and Washington streets.

2:41 a.m.
William E. Rufener II, 26, of Jirangville, Ohio, arrested for public urination on East Wooster Street.

2:50 a.m.
Patrick J. Dorman, 22, of Clayton, arrested for urinating on East Court Street.

3:27 a.m.
Jamal L. Bryant, 25, of Bowling Green, arrested on a warrant for drug trafficking in Wood County and was taken to jail. Officers had been called to Napoleon Road because of a fight.

8:13 a.m.
Car reported stolen from a West Poe Road mechanic shop. The mechanics who reported the theft wanted to make sure the former owner of the vehicle still paid the \$160 repair bill.

11:17 a.m.
Rear of a South Main Street building reported spray painted, causing \$100 damage.

5:14 p.m.
Identity theft reported at a Campbell Hill Road apartment complex. An unknown person got a credit card in the caller's name, purchased a television

and attempted to have it sent to Miami Gardens, Fla.

SUNDAY

1:10 a.m.
Ryan T. Tinnel, 19, of Milan, Ohio, arrested for using a fake ID at a North Main Street bar.

1:15 a.m.
Car windshield reported shattered on Mourning Dove Lane, causing \$300 in damage.

1:43 a.m.
Thomas A. Ball Jr., 22, of Waterville, Ohio, and Thomas W. Wray, 22, of Perrysburg, arrested for public urination in Lot 2.

2:09 a.m.
Vehicle reported broken into in an East Wooster Street parking lot. MP3 player, valued \$300, reported to have been taken.

2:27 a.m.
Shawn Zehender, 28, of Findlay, Ohio, arrested for disorderly conduct in Lot 4.

2:48 a.m.
Jason P. Mohler, 32, of Weston, Ohio, arrested for public urination in Lot 2.

3:29 a.m.
Caller reported hearing gunshots at High and Seventh streets. Police did not find any problems.

9:26 a.m.
Man called to report his girlfriend tried to stab him at an East Napoleon Road apartment complex. Police made no arrests because of conflicting accounts.

12:28 p.m.
Stereo reported stolen from a locked vehicle on South Mercer Road.

2:29 p.m.
Fairview Avenue resident reported her ex-boyfriend was banging on her door. He was advised to stay away from her residence.

3:07 p.m.
An RA in Kreisler caught a mouse in a glue trap and left it at the front desk. It was handled by maintenance.

4:45 p.m.
High Street resident reported receiving harassing e-mails.

7:02 p.m.
South Mercer Road apartment reported broken into over winter break. A portable DVD player was missing and the resident said the door and deadbolt had been pried on.

7:49 p.m.
Keys reported stolen out of an unlocked vehicle on Fourth Street. An unknown person attempted to take a CD player unsuccessfully. There was no damage to the vehicle.

9:48 p.m.
South Main Street resident reported several cars drove through her back yard.

MONDAY

2 a.m.
Campbell Hill Road resident reported he was robbed by a white male and two black males who were armed with handguns.

2:51 a.m.
Charles A. Shaw, 19, of Toledo, arrested for criminal damage after he broke a window with a chair during a fight at a Napoleon Road apartment.



DARKO VOJNOVIC | AP PHOTO

GHOST: The empty seat of executed Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein in Baghdad.

TRIAL

From Page 1

"This is not my signature and I'm sure of that."

Jalal Talabani | Iraqi President

And the White House said President Bush would lay out his new approach for the Iraq war in a speech tomorrow. Bush was expected to announce an increase of as many as 20,000 U.S. troops in a bid to contain sectarian warfare.

Iraqi police, meanwhile, reported the discovery of 27 tortured bodies in the capital and the deaths of 23 other people, including nine Shiite workers gunned down in a minibus on their way to the Baghdad airport.

Aside from al-Majid, the co-defendants in the so-called Anfal trial are former Defense Minister Sultan Hashim al-Tai, who was the commander of Task Force Anfal and head of the Iraqi army 1st Corps; Sabir al-Douri, Saddam's military intelligence chief; Taher Tawfiq al-Ani, former governor of Mosul and head of the Northern Affairs Committee; Hussein Rashid Mohammed, former deputy director of operations for the Iraqi armed forces and Farhan Mutlaq Saleh, former head of military intelligence's eastern regional office.

When al-Majid first took his seat in court yesterday, he tried to turn on his microphone to speak publicly. The judge quickly shut it off.

Before the trial adjourned until Jan. 11, Al-Farooq also presented a document allegedly signed by al-Ani, calling for the execution of 10 members of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, the party headed by current Iraqi President Jalal Talabani. Al-Ani denied the handwriting was his.

"This is not my signature and I'm sure of that," he told the court.



RIC FRANCIS | AP PHOTO

JOHN HANCOCK: Bud Krogh, right, signs an autograph for Araceli Hernandez at The Nixon Presidential Library and Birthplace.

Nixon meets Elvis, makes history and leaves fans all shook up

By GILLIAN FLACCUS
The Associated Press

YORBA LINDA, Calif. (AP) — The improbable meeting between two of the biggest cultural icons of the 1970s lasted all of 30 minutes, but it has fascinated the nation for years.

A photo of a cloaked and bejeweled Elvis Presley solemnly shaking hands with a grim-faced President Nixon remains the No. 1 requested document from the National Archives, nearly four decades after the secret meeting took place on Dec. 21, 1970.

Now, on what would be Elvis's 72nd birthday, the Richard Nixon Presidential Library & Birthplace is giving the curious public a good, long look at the relics of the coming together of The King and The

President — and it's got Elvis fans all shook up.

The free exhibit, which opened yesterday and will run several months, includes the outfit Elvis wore (a black velvet overcoat, a gold-plated belt and black leather boots); Nixon's outfit (a gray woolen suit, tie and size 11 1/2 black shoes); letters; and a World War II .45-caliber Colt revolver that Elvis gave to Nixon.

"The two of them together somehow is almost incomprehensible," said Bud Krogh, Nixon's then-deputy assistant for domestic affairs, who set up the impromptu meeting that day 36 years ago. "The king of rock and the president of the United States shaking hands in the Oval Office doesn't compute for a lot of people."

About 200 people, many of whom arrived early, listened to Krogh reminisce at the exhibit opening.

"Of all the two people, who would ever think that Elvis and Nixon would get together? I couldn't believe it," said Gloria Matta Tuchman, 65, of Santa Ana, who said she became enthralled with Elvis as a girl and met him when she was in her 20s.

The chain of events that led to the meeting began when a stretch limousine carrying Elvis pulled up outside the White House. One of his guards handed over a letter from Elvis addressed to Nixon requesting a meeting to discuss how the rock star could help Nixon fight drugs — including getting credentials as a "federal agent at large."

LEGEND

From Page 1

effort, Kutzley said.

"I think this money is being spent as well as it can," he said. "[Nugent] may not be as well-known as Coulter — everyone recognizes her name — but I believe we're bringing someone who is overall a better speaker."

Kutzley said Nugent's BGSU lecture will likely bring a pro-capitalist, pro-gun ownership message, focusing on the concept of the "self-made man and woman" and stressing the importance of second amendment rights.

To have maximum impact on campus, Kutzley said tickets to the event will be

"But if the [College Republicans] want to appeal to more people, it's smart of them to bring someone less radical."

Hannah Geyer | Senior

free to University students.

So far, other members of the College Republicans have shown enthusiasm about the change.

"I think [Nugent] is hilarious," Andy Hascher, a member of the group, said. "He's more of an entertainer than Ann Coulter. I think it'll be a lot more fun for people of all different ideologies."

Yet some students are simply happy that Coulter won't be speaking at the University.

"[Coulter] is just a spectacle," said Emily Resnik, senior. "She wouldn't have changed anyone's mind by speaking here."

Others find the change in speakers both pleasing and a let-down.

"I just wanted to go and listen [to Coulter] and laugh, honestly," said Hannah Geyer, senior. "But if the [College Republicans] want to appeal to more people, it's smart of them to bring someone less radical."

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GET A LIFE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Some events taken from events.bgnews.com

TODAY

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

57th Annual Faculty/Staff Exhibition
Dorothy Usher Bryan Gallery- Art Building

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

BUD HURLSTONE

Commemorative Exhibition

Willard Wankelman Gallery- Art Building

4:30 - 5:40 p.m.

Hire Education: How to Find a Part-Time Job

Need money? Why not work on campus? This session will teach you how to search for and get an on-campus job for the school year. This is a First Year Success Series Workshop geared toward first-year students. However, all are welcome to attend.
Career Center- 314 Union

5 p.m.

Council Presidents Dinner

Founders

8 - 10 p.m.

Resident Student Association Annual Bingo Night

Come join the Resident Student Association Annual Bingo Night and celebrate the beginning of Spring semester.
Union Ballroom

4 p.m.

College Democrats Informational Meeting

114 Business Administration

4 - 5:00 p.m.

Vision Weekly Meeting

107 Hanna Hall

4:15 p.m.

Leadership Workshop

209 Olscamp

College students catch up on their zzz's over the holidays

By Lisa Black
MCT

CHICAGO — College freshman Edie Weiner arrived home for winter break on a Saturday night, fell into her childhood bed and didn't get up for 20 hours.

By the time the 18-year-old stumbled out from hibernation at 5 p.m. the next day, her parents were growing a bit anxious.

Weiner, like many of her classmates, was recovering from a sleepless, caffeine-fueled week of cramming for finals — a sort of celebrated ritual that has long played out on college campuses.

But while some parents

may be annoyed about their teenagers' unusual sleep patterns when they return home for break — the word "lazy" might even be muttered on occasion — medical experts describe the students as sleep-deprived and say new research provides cause for concern.

A study published in the Dec. 18 issue of the *Nature Neuroscience* journal examined how memories are processed in the brain during sleep. During the nondreaming portion of sleep, the brain replays the day's events, helping people reflect on recent happenings and learn from them, said Matthew Wilson, a neuroscientist at

the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Picower Institute for Learning and Memory.

The bottom line: Information crammed into the brain during a sleepless night has less chance of sticking. When deprived of sleep, students may be able to regurgitate information they've memorized overnight, but they have decreased their ability to understand its meaning or to apply it to future experience.

"Sleep isn't just a passive event," said Wilson, co-author of the study, which interpreted the memories of rats by inserting electrodes into their brains.

"The best way to take advantage of sleep is to have it interspersed between periods of wakefulness in a regular way," he said.

Parents may feel better about cramming for exams because they see that when their exhausted students return home for break, they sleep excessively to catch up.

"They are trying to replenish themselves," said Dr. Phyllis Zee, a neurology professor and director of Northwest's University's Center for Sleep and Circadian Biology. But both she and Wilson said sleep gained days later isn't as beneficial as systematic sleep.

THE IMPORTANCE OF A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP

Your memory: A recent study said that during the nondreaming portion of sleep, the brain replays the day, which helps people reflect on events and how to learn from them. Information crammed over a sleepless night has less chance of sticking.

Best way to take advantage: Intersperse sleep between periods of wakefulness in a regular way.

Long-term sleep deprivation: Can lead to chronic fatigue, depressed mood, irritability, headaches and weight gain.

Small family farms provide fresh produce for college dining facilities

By Repps Hudson
MCT

ST. LOUIS — Universities and colleges crave a steady diet of meat, vegetables, fruit and other food for hungry students.

Take the University of Missouri at Columbia, where students consumed nearly 2 million meals in residence dining halls last year, according to a story in *Mizzou*, the alumni magazine. That daunting statistic includes 51,500 pounds of fresh tomatoes, 9 tons of cheddar cheese and 160 tons of french fries.

Likewise, local farmers need strong markets year round for their meat, produce, milk and eggs. But small local farms cannot totally fill the orders needed to satisfy a campus of hungry students, day after day, through all the seasons.

That fact hasn't deterred proponents who believe in providing students with fresher, more nutritious food, and small farmers a decent living.

Mary Hendrickson, a rural sociologist with University of Missouri Extension, ticks off the benefits:

Locally grown food is fresher

and doesn't have to travel far, which means a longer cooler or shelf life while cutting down on fuel consumption and harmful engine emissions.

The universities have firsthand knowledge of the farmers who grow the food.

The students have healthier food that isn't treated with chemicals or additives.

Valuable relationships are formed between local consumers and farmers that can rebuild a food-supply infrastructure.

Hendrickson always is searching for ways to strengthen small family farms in the face of large-scale, industrial agriculture that turns out meat, vegetables and other produce on a mass scale.

Her latest effort is coaxing food service managers and supply companies, such as U.S. Food Service of Columbia, Md., which supplies Mizzou and Washington University, to search for and buy from local farmers.

Hendrickson persuaded the food service at Mizzou to feature Missouri apples — Jonathan and red and golden Delicious — in one dining hall in the fall of 2005.

Campus dining halls high-



GRAIN DIET: Farmer Dave Hillebrand feeds grain to his goats on his farm near New Florence, Missouri, Dec. 21, 2006. Hillebrand is supplementing their feed with the grain because the dry summer didn't produce enough grass. (JB Fortney/St. Louis Post-Dispatch/MCT)

lighted Missouri apples again this fall. And on March 9, campus dining facilities served more than 3,000 meals featuring all Missouri products except spinach.

Those included pork loin, goat

cheese, grape juice and pecan pies. The university's agriculture experiment stations also have come through with tomatoes, pumpkins and decorative gourds, Hendrickson said.

U.S. Food Service has been

providing Mizzou's dining facilities with watermelons grown in St. Louis County by Thies Farm and Greenhouses Inc., said Dave Thies, whose family-owned commercial farm is a fifth-generation operation.

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MORE Lifts

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MORE Parks

A NEW terrain park at the site of the former tubing park.

MORE Snow

Mad River Mountain had added 32 NEW super polecat snow guns along with 2 NEW water pumps and a NEW snow cat for grooming.



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POLICE BLOTTER

FRIDAY

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10:11 a.m.
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Rear of a South Main Street building reported spray painted, causing \$100 damage.

5:14 p.m.
Identity theft reported at a Campbell Hill Road apartment complex. An unknown person got a credit card in the caller's name, purchased a television

and attempted to have it sent to Miami Gardens, Fla.

SUNDAY

1:10 a.m.
Ryan T. Tinnel, 19, of Milan, Ohio, arrested for using a fake ID at a North Main Street bar.

1:15 a.m.
Car windshield reported shattered on Mourning Dove Lane, causing \$300 in damage.

1:43 a.m.
Thomas A. Ball Jr., 22, of Waterville, Ohio, and Thomas W. Wray, 22, of Perrysburg, arrested for public urination in Lot 2.

2:09 a.m.
Vehicle reported broken into in an East Wooster Street parking lot. MP's player, valued \$300, reported to have been taken.

2:27 a.m.
Shawn Zehender, 28, of Findlay, Ohio, arrested for disorderly conduct in Lot 4.

2:48 a.m.
Jason P. Mohler, 32, of Weston, Ohio, arrested for public urination in Lot 2.

3:29 a.m.
Caller reported hearing gunshots at High and Seventh streets. Police did not find any problems.

9:26 a.m.
Mari called to report his girlfriend tried to stab him at an East Napoleon Road apartment complex. Police made no arrests because of conflicting accounts.

12:28 p.m.
Stereo reported stolen from a locked vehicle on South Mercer Road.

2:29 p.m.
Fairview Avenue resident reported her ex-boyfriend was banging on her door. He was advised to stay away from her residence.

3:07 p.m.
An RA in Kreisler caught a mouse in a glue trap and left it at the front desk. It was handled by maintenance.

4:45 p.m.
High Street resident reported receiving harassing e-mails.

7:02 p.m.
South Mercer Road apartment reported broken into over winter break. A portable DVD player was missing and the resident said the door and deadbolt had been pried on.

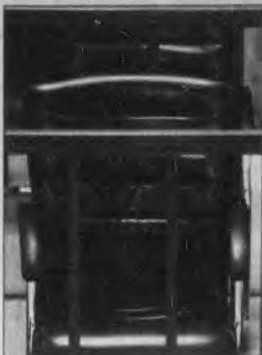
7:49 p.m.
Keys reported stolen out of an unlocked vehicle on Fourth Street. An unknown person attempted to take a CD player unsuccessfully. There was no damage to the vehicle.

9:48 p.m.
South Main Street resident reported several cars drove through her back yard.

MONDAY

2 a.m.
Campbell Hill Road resident reported he was robbed by a white male and two black males who were armed with handguns.

2:51 a.m.
Charles A. Shaw, 19, of Toledo, arrested for criminal damaging after he broke a window with a chair during a fight at a Napoleon Road apartment.



DARKO VOJINOVIC | AP PHOTO
GHOST: The empty seat of executed Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein in Baghdad.

TRIAL

From Page 1

"This is not my signature and I'm sure of that."

Jalal Talabani | Iraqi President

And the White House said President Bush would lay out his new approach for the Iraq war in a speech tomorrow. Bush was expected to announce an increase of as many as 20,000 U.S. troops in a bid to contain sectarian warfare.

Iraqi police, meanwhile, reported the discovery of 27 tortured bodies in the capital and the deaths of 23 other people, including nine Shiite workers gunned down in a minibus on their way to the Baghdad airport.

Aside from al-Majid, the co-defendants in the so-called Anfal trial are former Defense Minister Sultan Hashim al-Tai, who was the commander of Task Force Anfal and head of the Iraqi army 1st Corps; Sabir al-Douri, Saddam's military intelligence chief; Taher Tawfiq al-Ani, former governor of Mosul and head of the Northern Affairs Committee; Hussein Rashid Mohammed, former deputy director of operations for the Iraqi armed forces and Farhan Mutlaq Saleh, former head of military intelligence's eastern regional office.

When al-Majid first took his seat in court yesterday, he tried to turn on his microphone to speak publicly. The judge quickly shut it off.

Before the trial adjourned until Jan. 11, Al-Farooq also presented a document allegedly signed by al-Ani, calling for the execution of 10 members of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, the party headed by current Iraqi President Jalal Talabani. Al-Ani denied the handwriting was his.

"This is not my signature and I'm sure of that," he told the court.



JOHN HANCOCK: Bud Krogh, right, signs an autograph for Araceli Hernandez at The Nixon Presidential Library and Birthplace.

Nixon meets Elvis, makes history and leaves fans all shook up

By **GILLIAN FLACCUS**
The Associated Press

YORBA LINDA, Calif. (AP) — The improbable meeting between two of the biggest cultural icons of the 1970s lasted all of 30 minutes, but it has fascinated the nation for years.

A photo of a cloaked and bejeweled Elvis Presley solemnly shaking hands with a grim-faced President Nixon remains the No. 1 requested document from the National Archives, nearly four decades after the secret meeting took place on Dec. 21, 1970.

Now, on what would be Elvis's 72nd birthday, the Richard Nixon Presidential Library & Birthplace is giving the curious public a good, long look at the relics of the coming together of The King and The

President — and it's got Elvis fans all shook up.

The free exhibit, which opened yesterday and will run several months, includes the outfit Elvis wore (a black velvet overcoat, a gold-plated belt and black leather boots); Nixon's outfit (a gray woolen suit, tie and size 11 1/2 black shoes); letters; and a World War II .45-caliber Colt revolver that Elvis gave to Nixon.

"The two of them together somehow is almost incomprehensible," said Bud Krogh, Nixon's then-deputy assistant for domestic affairs, who set up the impromptu meeting that day 36 years ago. "The king of rock and the president of the United States shaking hands in the Oval Office doesn't compute for a lot of people."

About 200 people, many of whom arrived early, listened to Krogh reminisce at the exhibit opening.

"Of all the two people, who would ever think that Elvis and Nixon would get together? I couldn't believe it," said Gloria Matta Tuchman, 65, of Santa Ana, who said she became enthralled with Elvis as a girl and met him when she was in her 20s.

The chain of events that led to the meeting began when a stretch limousine carrying Elvis pulled up outside the White House. One of his guards handed over a letter from Elvis addressed to Nixon requesting a meeting to discuss how the rock star could help Nixon fight drugs — including getting credentials as a "federal agent at large."

LEGEND

From Page 1

effort, Kutzley said.

"I think this money is being spent as well as it can," he said. "[Nugent] may not be as well-known as Coulter — everyone recognizes her name — but I believe we're bringing someone who is overall a better speaker."

Kutzley said Nugent's BGSU lecture will likely bring a pro-capitalist, pro-gun ownership message, focusing on the concept of the "self-made man and woman" and stressing the importance of second amendment rights.

To have maximum impact on campus, Kutzley said tickets to the event will be

"But if the [College Republicans] want to appeal to more people, it's smart of them to bring someone less radical."

Hannah Geyer | Senior

free to University students.

So far, other members of the College Republicans have shown enthusiasm about the change.

"I think [Nugent] is hilarious," Andy Hascher, a member of the group, said. "He's more of an entertainer than Ann Coulter. I think it'll be a lot more fun for people of all different ideologies."

Yet some students are simply happy that Coulter won't be speaking at the University.

"[Coulter] is just a spectacle," said Emily Resnik, senior. "She wouldn't have changed anyone's mind by speaking here."

Others find the change in speakers both pleasing and a let-down.

"I just wanted to go and listen [to Coulter] and laugh, honestly," said Hannah Geyer, senior. "But if the [College Republicans] want to appeal to more people, it's smart of them to bring someone less radical."

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GET A LIFE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Some events taken from events.bgsu.edu

TODAY

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

57th Annual Faculty/
Staff ExhibitionDorothy Uber Bryan Gallery- Art
Building

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

BUD HURLSTONE

Commemorative Exhibition
Willard Wankelman Gallery- Art
Building

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Hire Education: How to
Find a Part-Time JobNeed money? Why not work on
campus? This session will teach you
how to search for and get an on-cam-
pus job for the school year. This is a
First Year Success Series Workshop,
geared toward first-year students.
However, all are welcome to attend.
Career Center- 314 Union

5 p.m.

Council Presidents
Dinner

Founders

8 - 10 p.m.

Resident Student
Association Annual
Bingo NightCome join the Resident Student
Association Annual Bingo Night
and celebrate the beginning of
Spring semester.
Union Ballroom

9 p.m.

College Democrats
Informational Meeting

114 Business Administration

9 - 10:15 p.m.

Vision Weekly Meeting

107 Hanna Hall

9:15 p.m.

Leadership Workshop

209 Olscamp

College students catch up on their zzz's over the holidays

By Lisa Black
MCTCHICAGO — College fresh-
man Edie Weiner arrived
home for winter break on a
Saturday night, fell into her
childhood bed and didn't get
up for 20 hours.By the time the 18-year-old
stumbled out from hiberna-
tion at 5 p.m. the next day,
her parents were growing a
bit anxious.Weiner, like many of her
classmates, was recovering
from a sleepless, caffeine-
fueled week of cramming for
finals — a sort of celebrated
ritual that has long played
out on college campuses.

But while some parents

may be annoyed about their
teenagers' unusual sleep pat-
terns when they return home
for break — the word "lazy"
might even be muttered on
occasion — medical experts
describe the students as
sleep-deprived and say new
research provides cause for
concern.A study published in the
Dec. 18 issue of the Nature
Neuroscience journal exam-
ined how memories are pro-
cessed in the brain during
sleep. During the nondream-
ing portion of sleep, the brain
replays the day's events,
helping people reflect on
recent happenings and learn
from them, said Matthew
Wilson, a neuroscientist atthe Massachusetts Institute
of Technology's Picower
Institute for Learning and
Memory.The bottom line:
Information crammed into
the brain during a sleep-
less night has less chance
of sticking. When deprived
of sleep, students may be
able to regurgitate infor-
mation they've memorized
overnight, but they have
decreased their ability to
understand its meaning or to
apply it to future experience.
"Sleep isn't just a passive
event," said Wilson, co-
author of the study, which
interpreted the memories of
rats by inserting electrodes
into their brains."The best way to take
advantage of sleep is to have
it interspersed between peri-
ods of wakefulness in a regu-
lar way," he said.Parents may feel better
about cramming for exams
because they see that when
their exhausted students
return home for break, they
sleep excessively to catch up."They are trying to replen-
ish themselves," said Dr.
Phyllis Zee, a neurology
professor and director of
Northwestern University's
Center for Sleep and
Circadian Biology. But both
she and Wilson said sleep
gained days later isn't as ben-
eficial as systematic sleep.THE IMPORTANCE
OF A GOOD
NIGHT'S SLEEP**Your memory:** A recent study
said that during the nondream-
ing portion of sleep, the brain
replays the day, which helps
people reflect on events
and how to learn from them.
Information crammed over a
sleepless night has less chance
of sticking.**Best way to take advantage:**
Interperse sleep between
periods of wakefulness in a
regular way.**Long-term sleep
deprivation:** Can lead to
chronic fatigue, depressed
moods, irritability, headaches
and weight gain.

Small family farms provide fresh produce for college dining facilities

By Repps Hudson
MCTST. LOUIS — Universities and
colleges crave a steady diet of
meat, vegetables, fruit and other
food for hungry students.Take the University of Missouri
at Columbia, where students
consumed nearly 2 million
meals in residence dining halls
last year, according to a story in
Mizzou, the alumni magazine.
That daunting statistic includes
51,500 pounds of fresh toma-
toes, 9 tons of cheddar cheese
and 160 tons of french fries.Likewise, local farmers need
strong markets year round for
their meat, produce, milk and
eggs. But small local farms can-
not totally fill the orders needed
to satisfy a campus of hungry
students, day after day, through
all the seasons.That fact hasn't deterred pro-
ponents who believe in provid-
ing students with fresher, more
nutritious food, and small farm-
ers a decent living.Mary Hendrickson, a rural
sociologist with University of
Missouri Extension, ticks off the
benefits:

Locally grown food is fresher

and doesn't have to travel far,
which means a longer cooler or
shelf life while cutting down on
fuel consumption and harmful
engine emissions.The universities have first-
hand knowledge of the farmers
who grow the food.The students have healthi-
er food that isn't treated with
chemicals or additives.Valuable relationships are
formed between local consum-
ers and farmers that can rebuild
a food-supply infrastructure.Hendrickson always is search-
ing for ways to strengthen small
family farms in the face of large-
scale, industrial agriculture that
turns out meat, vegetables and
other produce on a mass scale.Her latest effort is coaxing food
service managers and supply
companies, such as U.S. Food
Service of Columbia, Md., which
supplies Mizzou and Washington
University, to search for and buy
from local farmers.Hendrickson persuaded the
food service at Mizzou to feature
Missouri apples — Jonathan
and red and golden Delicious
— in one dining hall in the fall
of 2005.

Campus dining halls high-

**GRAIN DIET:** Farmer Dave Hillebrand feeds grain to his goats on his farm near New Florence, Missouri, Dec. 21, 2006. Hillebrand is supplementing
their feed with the grain because the dry summer didn't produce enough grass. (J.B. Forbes/St. Louis Post-Dispatch/MCT)lighted Missouri apples again
this fall. And on March 9, cam-
pus dining facilities served
more than 3,000 meals featur-
ing all Missouri products except
spinach.

Those included pork loin, goat

cheese, grape juice and pecan
pies. The university's agricul-
ture experiment stations also
have come through with toma-
toes, pumpkins and decorative
gourds, Hendrickson said.

U.S. Food Service has been

providing Mizzou's dining facili-
ties with watermelons grown in
St. Louis County by Thies Farm
and Greenhouses Inc., said Dave
Thies, whose family-owned
commercial farm is a fifth-gen-
eration operation.MONEY FOR COLLEGE
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"...she's got something wrong with her. I think she's cracking up...Rosie is basically a very untalented person who's a bully. Her intelligence is less than average in my opinion."

— Donald Trump, speaking out in disdain against Rosie O'Donnell

Tuesday, January 9, 2007 4

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

If you could pick anyone, who would you pick to be President?



"Kevin Hartman."

Amanda Buchert,
Freshman, Early Childhood
Education



"Jon Stewart."

Heather Utsler,
Freshman, Adolescent/
Young Adult Education



"Hillary Clinton."

Amanda Wroble,
Sophomore, Human
Development

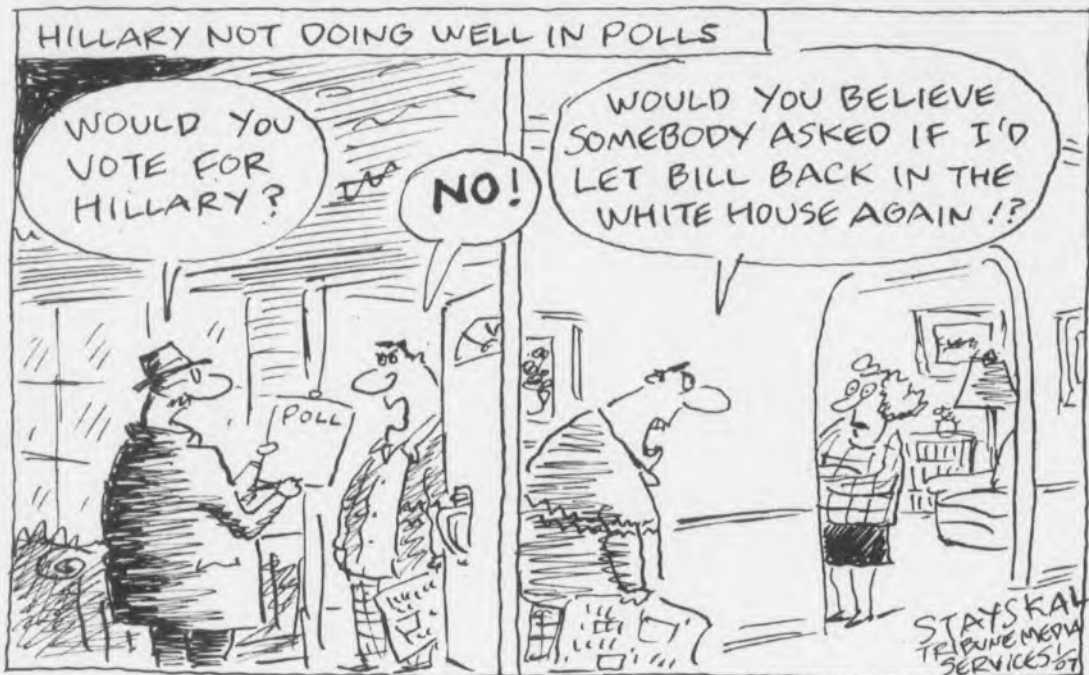


"Paris Hilton."

Sarah Leidheiser,
Freshman, Undecided

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Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your feedback at bgnews.com.



Everyone say it: O-H-I-O



LAUREN WALTER
OPINION COLUMNIST

If you're one of the millions of people who watched the Buckeyes in last night's National Championship Game — congratulations! Congratulations on being a fan of one of the greatest teams in college football!

But even more than that, congratulations on contributing to the ever-growing "Buckeye Fever."

People just can't seem to get enough of Ohio State football. You see it everywhere. One day last semester, as I walked onto campus, I observed how many people were wearing Ohio State gear. In less than one minute, I saw eight people, half of whom had some sort of Ohio State sweatshirt on.

After that, I just gave up. Now, that may have just been a coincidence, but our state's love for the team down in Columbus is apparent.

If money talks, then one sure way to see how much we love our team is by looking at how much money we're willing to spend to see them.

An article called "Why bigger is better at Ohio State" printed in last Friday's USA Today cited Ohio State's athletics program as raking in the most revenue of any NCAA Division I-A program at \$104.7 million last year.

The article also states that football brought in "more than \$28 million profit a year ago." Although these are impressive numbers, the University keeps pumping that money back into its programs.

The article also mentions that Ohio State became "the first with a nine-figure athletics budget last year, spending \$101.8 million."

But why does the school rake in so much cash? Maybe it's because the stadium greets over 101,000 fans every home game. And, maybe it's because fans are willing to fork over the money to sit in that stadium through rain or shine to see our favorite team win.

The school is banking on fans' loyalty, and, in turn, fans expect their team to be a winning program. It's a continuous cycle of "Buckeye Fever."

Ticket sales aren't the only thing spreading the fever; retailers are also cashing in. Specialty shops carrying exclusively Buckeye merchandise have sprung up in an effort to capitalize on fans' obsession. Local department stores are also sure to carry Ohio State apparel to cater to fans.

Although the money says something, just think of the die-hard fans you know.

Chances are, they woke up yesterday with an air of excitement, possibly rivaling the ways most kids wake up on Christmas morning.

They probably sat through

work or class impatiently counting down the minutes until kickoff. They lived and died with every play. And they loved every minute of it.

Let's face it: Ohio loves her team.

But I guess my point is that this Buckeye Fever is not necessarily a bad thing. In fact, it can be a very, very good thing. Now, don't get me wrong, I'm not condoning the rioting or the burning of couches that is sometimes associated with Ohio State fans in Columbus. But a healthy love of our local team is actually quite refreshing to see.

Although not every Ohioan is a die-hard fan, not many states can say that most of their citizens are behind their team like Ohio can. Just think about how blessed we are to have Ohio State. (I know that sounds crazy, but just think about it.)

This is one thing most Ohioans can agree on. The incredible fanaticism has the ability to break down barriers of division and build tremendous unity.

There is something special about how Ohio comes together for this team; and, in turn, the team would not be what it is without its fans.

Another positive reason for Ohio State fanaticism is that fans will respect and listen to its coaches and players.

Of course, this can only be positive if the coaches and players carry themselves with integrity. But they do have the power to influence Ohioans.

For example: Just look at who Ohio State has in head football coach Jim Tressel, who most people love because he carries himself with integrity.

In a recent article about Tressel in the New York Times, reporter Jere Longman interviewed Mel Adelman, a professor who teaches a college sports course at Ohio State.

He said, "Beyond football, Tressel represents what many Ohioans want in themselves — respectability, lack of ostentation, letting actions speak louder than words."

Tressel not only brings national championships to his native state, but he also brings with him the virtues of "faith, humility, caring and love," as noted by ESPN.com columnist Gene Wojciechowski in his column this week.

And he makes those the themes of his football team.

When Ohio State, with the amount of influence it has, has someone like Jim Tressel in charge — someone who teaches his players what it means to be a person of virtue — there is great potential to rally the rest of the state around those kind of principles.

Call it a stretch if you may, but Buckeye Fever can be a great, great thing for the state of Ohio. It already has proven to be. Keep up the spirit, Ohio! O - H - I - O

Send comments to Lauren Walter at walterl@bgsu.edu

Vote for Obama in 2008



AMANDA HOOVER
OPINION EDITOR

Just under three months ago America was overcome with voter frenzy. With the results in and the new laws starting to be implemented, many are breathing a sigh of relief that they can tune out politics for a while.

Those people are wrong. The beginning of 2007 has arrived with announcements from several potential candidates for the 2008 presidential election. With only 22 months to plot their ascent to the throne, oops I mean the presidency; candidates are scrambling to win their party's nomination.

Front-runners for the Republican Party are former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani and Arizona Senator John McCain, according to the Angus Reid

Global Monitor. Front Page Magazine shows the Democrats being led by ex-first lady and current New York Junior Senator Hilary Rodham-Clinton; former vice-presidential candidate and Senator John Edwards and Illinois Senator Barack Obama.

Al Gore and John Kerry are looking for a bid, too, but seriously; they've both dropped the ball before and the Democrats can't face another humiliating loss.

So all this has happened in the past few months, and I'll bet most students in their three-week Winter Break coma didn't even notice. But now that this is pulling out front in the news it's time to drag ourselves back to reality and start looking into these potential leaders of our country.

All too often what we see is 75 percent of the country realizing in August that there's an election coming up and they should probably brush up on the candidates. That is not soon enough. In order to make fully educated decisions, Americans need to be watching

these developments as they happen, not reading about them after the fact.

In a recent LA Times article, poll results revealed that 40 percent of Democrats don't know enough about Barack Obama to form an opinion about him. This isn't even Americans in general, this is Democrats. My own party doesn't know enough about this charismatic and potentially revolutionary candidate to even form an opinion.

Obama embodies many of the most important issues of our time. Not only would he be the first African American to run for President of the United States, he's spoken out against many of the pitfalls with the current administration.

He's spoken out against genocide in Darfur, the AIDS epidemic and has urged for the withdrawal of troops in Iraq.

He's a man for the issues, not for the politics. According to BarackObama.com, on Nov. 3, 2006, Obama visited Maryland

in support of white Democratic candidate Ben Cardin. He spent his time there urging blacks not to vote along racial lines, but rather on individual candidates and issues.

This is what we need. While many will criticize Obama for his lack of experience, I feel what we really need in our government are some fresh, new ideas. There will always be advisors to offer insight, but after eight years of the 'Bush Experience' even Ralph Nader is starting to look good.

We've had the same stodgy old white men running America for the past, oh 231 years or so. It's time for a change. But in order to do so, we need Americans to care. We need to stay informed about the happenings in the political arena.

We need to voice our opinions before Election Day so we can avoid being forced to choose between the lesser of two idiots.

Send comments to Amanda at hooovera@bgsu.edu

Make resolutions a reality in 2007

STAFF EDITORIAL | UCLA

With another year at an end, many are looking to the mistakes and problems of 2006 and setting resolutions for a more successful 2007.

In the spirit of progress, this editorial board wanted to lay out what we think members of the UCLA community should work on in the coming year.

Chancellor-elect Gene Block: I resolve to become the most influential chancellor to date for UCLA. I will be more responsive to faculty and attentive to student needs.

This means that my communication with the student body will not cut off at one office hour per quarter — having only 10 minutes each with six random students just won't cut it.

UC Board of Regents: We resolve to stop sleeping at our meetings and actually pay attention to what people are saying during public comment. We also resolve to not increase student fees.

Pauley Pavilion: I resolve to be renovated without losing my historic name. Once I'm state-of-the-art, I will no longer look with jealousy across town to the sparkling Galen Center.

I will continue to play host to sold-out sporting events and will house the best college basketball team in history.

Soon entire recruiting classes will stand within my walls and marvel at my glory.

Undergraduate Students Association Council: We resolve

to work more collaboratively with one another, setting aside slate politics for the good of the student body.

We also resolve to not pass resolutions about events taking place thousands of miles away that we actually have no political control over, such as conflict in the Middle East.

Campus Events Commission: We resolve to consistently put on far more interesting concerts. We're off to a good start this quarter with emo group Cursive, but we hope to put on more concerts by cool bands than we did last quarter.

After all, it can't be that hard to book some eclectic, up-and-coming indie bands.

We've only being doing it for,

oh, the last decade.

University databases: OMG, we resolve not to get pwned again by uber-lame hax0rz lol! Seriously, though, something's gotta change if a hacker can access the "restricted" information — including Social Security numbers, addresses and contact information — of 800,000 students, alumni, staff and faculty.

Cars of Westwood residents: Now that apron parking is going to be enforced this quarter, we resolve to find somewhere to park our big steely selves without getting ticketed.

Maybe someone can find a workable solution to the parking woes of Westwood and save hundreds of students thousands of dollars while keeping our streets safe and repaired.

THE BG NEWS

HOLLY ABRAMS, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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The BG News Submission Policy

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are longer pieces between 400 and 500 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. The maximum number of submissions for columns is two per month.

POLICIES: Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS as an attachment to thenews@bgsu.com with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." Only e-mailed letters and columns will be considered for printing. All letters are subject to review for length and clarity before printing.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the view of The BG News.

Divisions arise after second priest resigns

By Vanessa Gera
The Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — A second prominent Catholic clergyman resigned yesterday after allegations about his links to the communist-era secret police, and the prospect that more clerics may have been compromised threatened the church's reputation as a bastion of opposition to the old regime.

A day after Warsaw's new archbishop stunned the faithful by resigning minutes before his formal installation ceremony, the Rev. Janusz Bielanski resigned as rector of Krakow's prestigious Wawel Cathedral, burial place to Polish kings and queens, Krakow church spokesman Robert Niecek said.

Bielanski's resignation was "in connection with repeated allegations about his cooperation with the secret services" of the communist era, Niecek said. He added that Krakow's archbishop, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, accepted the resignation.

The allegations against Bielanski first surfaced last February, but the timing of his resignation deepens the sense of crisis around the church over the issue of priests who were compromised by the secret police.

In a dramatic development Sunday, new Warsaw Archbishop Stanislaw Wielgus stepped down from the post he took up two days earlier — announcing the decision during what was supposed to have been his installation Mass.

The revelations about Wielgus, and his abrupt resignation, have rattled Poland and revealed deep divisions within the church over the issue.

Allegations that Wielgus was involved with the secret police were first raised by a Polish weekly on Dec. 20 and exploded into a full crisis Friday when a church historical commission said it found evidence he had cooperated.

Wielgus initially denied it, but then acknowledged he did sign an agreement in 1978 promising to cooperate with the secret police in exchange for permission to leave Poland to study in West Germany.

He stressed that he did not inform on anyone or try to hurt anyone, and he expressed remorse for both his contacts with the secret police and his failure to be open.

Cardinal Jozef Glemp, whom Wielgus was replacing as archbishop of Warsaw, will stay in office until a successor is found.



STANDING GUARD: A Palestinian militant from the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a militia linked to the Fatah Movement, holds his weapon during a rally in the West Bank city of Nablus, yesterday. More than 30 people have been killed in the past month in fighting between Hamas and Fatah in the Gaza Strip.

NASSER ISHTAYEH / AP PHOTO

Power struggle continues despite captive's release

By Ali Daraghmeh
The Associated Press

NABLUS, West Bank — Fatah gunmen released the deputy mayor of Nablus unharmed yesterday, two days after kidnapping him in a wave of factional violence spreading through the West Bank.

But new unrest erupted elsewhere in the West Bank, as Fatah militants torched stores of Hamas supporters in Ramallah and shot at the house of a top

Hamas official.

The kidnapping of Mahdi al-Khamdali, a top Hamas official in the West Bank's commercial center, had raised fears that the violence could soon spin out of control. His captors released a video on Sunday showing him surrounded by masked gunmen, who threatened to carry out widespread attacks on Hamas targets.

Al-Khamdali, unshaven and his shoes covered in mud, said he was not hurt in captivity.

"They treated me well. They didn't ask me for anything special," he told reporters. He thanked Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, of Fatah, and other officials for working for his release.

Fatah and Hamas have been in a vicious power struggle since the Islamic group defeated Fatah in parliamentary elections last year. Hamas controls the legislature and most government functions, while Fatah holds the powerful presidency.

Abbas, a moderate, favors peace talks with Israel, while Hamas rejects the Jewish state's right to exist, despite an international boycott against its government. Abbas has urged Hamas to join Fatah in a more moderate unity government, but months of negotiations collapsed in late November, sparking the latest round of factional violence.

More than 30 people have been killed in the past month of fighting in the Gaza Strip.

Passengers, crew rescued from Indonesian waters

By Zakki Hakim
The Associated Press

MAKASSAR, Indonesia — Fifteen people who spent nine days on a life raft after their ferry sank in the Java Sea — sharing emergency rations of food and water — were plucked from the water after the crew of a passing ship saw them waving for help.

One in the group — an 18-year-old — died hours after the rescue, which came Sunday after the life raft drifted 370 miles from where the Indonesian ferry carrying more than 600 people sank in stormy weather.

Baiman, a 25-year-old construction material supplier who

was taken to the hospital as soon as he reached land, said yesterday that four of the ferry's crew members were among those on the life raft.

"Their knowledge of the sea helped us, especially when we were pounded by high waves and when the sun was blazing down on our raft," he said. "They encouraged us and kept our spirit alive."

Baiman, who like many Indonesians goes by only one name, said he was in the ferry's cafe when the ship turned dark and listed.

"Water rushed in and the boat started to sink. I tried to smash

"Their knowledge of the sea helped us, especially when we were pounded by high waves and when the sun was blazing down on our raft."

Baiman / Construction Material Supplier

the window but I couldn't," Baiman told The Associated Press. "Finally someone helped me break it and I swam into the sea. I was pulled into a life raft with 14 other people."

Indonesia's tropical waters are generally warm — from 72-84 degrees — and officials said people have been known

to survive for days. Many of the Senopati Nusantara's lifeboats were equipped with emergency rations of cookies, dry bread and water — including the one brought to shore yesterday. It also had an emergency whistle.

"We shared the food and water and saved some of it until we were rescued," said Baiman.

Evacuation ordered after volcanic blast

By Bennette Roach
The Associated Press

OLVESTON, Montserrat — The volcano that destroyed Montserrat's capital in 1997 shot a cloud of ash more than five miles into the sky yesterday, and one of the island's chief scientists said the blast was "a warning call."

The government has advised about 50 families on the northwestern side of the volcano's base that their homes were at risk from flows of blistering gas and debris if the dome collapses. Gov. Deborah Barnes Jones said she would sign an evacuation order yesterday making it illegal for people to remain in the area.

The blast, accompanied by increased seismic rumbling, released gases and steam from inside a lava dome that has grown rapidly over the last week, said Dr. Vicky Hards, director of the Montserrat Volcano Observatory.

"I think it was a warning call ... of what it can do," Hards said.

The explosion around sunrise also sent a flow of volcanic material cascading two miles down the northwest flank, but did not immediately threaten any of the British Caribbean island's 5,000 inhabitants, Hards said. Sirens alerted people to listen to the radio for updates.

"People in the affected area know who they are and should work urgently on packing up and arranging for alternative accommodations," Barnes Jones said in a radio address.

WORLD BRIEF

By News Wire Services

Another conviction for murders on 9/11

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) — A Moroccan convicted as an accessory to murder in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks was sentenced yesterday to the maximum 15 years in prison, minutes after telling the son of a woman killed that day, "my future is ruined." A federal appeals court convicted Mounir el Mottasadeq, a friend of three of the suicide pilots, in November of knowingly helping the hijackers and sent the case to a state court in Hamburg for sentencing.

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HARRY CABLUCK | AP PHOTO

BIRD IS THE WORD: Workers in protective suits, left, prepare to collect dead birds along Congress Ave., Monday, Jan. 8, 2007, in Austin, Texas. Police shut down 10 blocks of businesses in the heart of downtown early Monday after dozens of birds were found dead in the streets, but officials said preliminary tests showed no dangerous chemicals in the air.

Dead birds found in downtown Austin

By Jim Vertunoe
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Police shut down 10 blocks in downtown Austin for several hours yesterday after 63 birds were found dead in the street, but officials said preliminary tests found no threat to people.

Workers in yellow hazardous-materials suits tested for contaminants in a cordoned-off section near the state Capitol and the governor's mansion before authorities finally gave the all-clear in the afternoon.

Although officials could not immediately determine whether poison or something else killed the birds, "there's no threat to humans at this point," said Assistant City Manager Michael McDonald.

The dead grackles, sparrows and pigeons will be tested.

Some experts said the most likely cause of the die-off was a deliberate poisoning. "It happens quite frequently," said Greg

Butcher, director of bird conservation at the National Audubon Society in Washington.

Grackles are a crowlike bird regarded as a major pest in Texas, with Austin sidewalks sometimes covered in their droppings.

The dead birds were found overnight along Congress Avenue, a major downtown thoroughfare. Police closed the route through downtown and two side streets, and a staging area was set up near the Capitol, with dozens of fire trucks, police cars and ambulances.

The Capitol opened on schedule, however. And the governor was not asked to leave the mansion.

Dr. Adolfo Valadez, medical director for the Austin and Travis County Health and Human Services Division, said the birds will be tested for signs of poison or viral infections. But he said officials do not believe bird flu is involved.

It could be days or weeks before a cause is determined, he said.

By Juan A. Lozano
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — The wife of a truck driver convicted in the nation's deadliest human smuggling attempt asked a jury yesterday to spare her husband the death penalty so his children won't grow up fatherless.

"I grew up without a father. I know what it's like. I don't want my kids to go through that," said a tearful Karen Williams, an accountant for the New York State Office of Children and Family Services.

Karen Williams and two of her three children testified yesterday in the punishment phase of the retrial of Tyrone Williams, 35, convicted last month on 58 counts of conspiracy, harboring and transporting immigrants in his sweltering trailer during the smuggling attempt in 2003.

The truck driver's oldest son, 11-year-old Tyrone Williams III, told jurors how his father had stressed the importance of getting an education, and that he

missed him.

"He's a very kind man," the boy said.

Williams' 8-year-old daughter also briefly testified, saying she wanted her father to come home.

Testimony wrapped up yesterday and closing arguments were set for the afternoon.

The jury could begin deliberating later on whether to sentence Williams to death or up to life in prison for the deaths of 19 illegal immigrants. They were among more than 70 people crammed into the truck, which was abandoned at a truck stop near Victoria, about 100 miles southwest of Houston.

The punishment phase has included tearful testimony from relatives of the victims asking for justice, as well as from Williams' relatives asking that his life be spared.

Prosecutors have said Williams deserves a death sentence because he intentionally committed an act of violence

that caused the immigrants' deaths when he did not let them out.

Craig Washington, Williams' attorney, has said his client never intended for the immigrants to die and blamed the deaths on other members of the smuggling ring who over-stuffed the trailer. The immigrants who died suffered from dehydration, overheating and suffocation after nearly four hours inside the container.

Williams, a Jamaican citizen who lived in Schenectady, N.Y., is the only one of 14 people charged facing the death penalty.

In 2005, a jury convicted Williams on 38 transporting counts, but he avoided a death sentence because the jury couldn't agree on his role in the smuggling attempt. The jury deadlocked on the 20 other counts.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected the verdict, saying the jury failed to specify his role in the crime.

FEMA heads west to ease blizzard damage

By Jon Sarche
The Associated Press

DENVER — President Bush signed emergency declarations allowing federal aid to help Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas recover from back-to-back blizzards that shut down highways and knocked out power to tens of thousands of homes.

Thirteen Colorado counties — including the cities of Denver, Boulder and Pueblo — were included in the declaration issued Sunday for the Dec. 18-22 blizzard. A second declaration was issued for Otero County in southeastern Colorado for the Dec. 28-31 storm, Federal Emergency Management Agency spokesman Jerry DeFelice said.

The move opens the way for FEMA to reimburse local governments and some civilian agencies for snow removal, police overtime, shelter operations and emergency medical care.

Colorado's request for economic relief for ranchers at risk of losing cattle because of the storms remains under review, said FEMA congressional affairs specialist Thomas Glen.

"We're waiting on pins and needles" to hear whether ranchers will receive federal disaster aid as requested by the state, said Terry Fankhauser, executive vice president of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association.

Up to 15,000 cattle may have been killed and more than four times higher than the 3,500 cattle that state officials estimated, Fankhauser said. The smaller number included only range cattle and did not account for thousands of livestock in feedlot pens.

State officials have said many ranchers will not have an accurate count of their losses until more snow melts. Fankhauser estimated that up to one-third of ranchers in the area have not located all their cattle.

Bush pushes No Child Left Behind law

By Nancy Zuckerbrod
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush pushed for renewal of the No Child Left Behind education law yesterday in a meeting with congressional leaders but was noncommittal on their request for more money to help schools meet the law's requirements.

"In our discussions today, we've all agreed to work together to address some of the major concerns that some people have on this piece of legislation, without weakening the essence of the bill," Bush said following the White House meeting with Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

The law seeks to ensure all children can read and do

math at grade level by 2014, which has placed many new demands on schools. They have had to step up testing, boost teacher quality and pay more attention to the achievements of minority children.

Schools that get federal aid but do not make enough progress must provide tutoring, offer public school choice to students or initiate other reforms such as overhauling their staffs.

Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., and Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., — who chair committees overseeing education — said they urged the president to propose funding increases for the law. Bush made no commitments, according to a congressional aide who was briefed on the discussions and spoke on the condition of

anonymity because the meeting was private.

Democrats, who won control of Congress in November, say the administration and Republican lawmakers have underfunded the law by about \$50 billion, compared to what was originally called for. Republicans say it is common practice for legislation to be funded at less than the full level.

While partisan sniping over the law has been common in recent years, the lawmakers attending yesterday's meeting struck a bipartisan note and pledged to work together to get the law renewed for five more years. The united front is part of a strategy to fend off critics who want to see the law scrapped or drastically changed.

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Worker killed in power plant explosion, nine injured

By Mark Williams
The Associated Press

BEVERLY, Ohio — A powerful explosion yesterday at a coal-burning power plant in southeast Ohio killed a worker delivering liquid hydrogen and injured nine others, authorities said.

The delivery driver was unloading hydrogen into cylinders just outside the plant when something triggered the explosion. Plant officials weren't sure whether the truck or hydrogen tubes exploded or what caused it, said Vikki Michalski, a spokeswoman for American Electric Power.

The blast blew out the windows of a nearby building.

"It was real strong," said Doug Burke, who was operating a front-end loader at Reed Minerals, about a half-mile from the plant. "I felt it inside my loader, and I looked up and saw smoke and then fire, and then after that steam."

"If you blinked your eyes you would have missed it," he said.

Although hydrogen gas is highly explosive, it is used to cool

steam generators at the plant because it has a high capacity for heat and it is more efficient than using air.

Hydrogen is delivered to the plant about once a week, Michalski said.

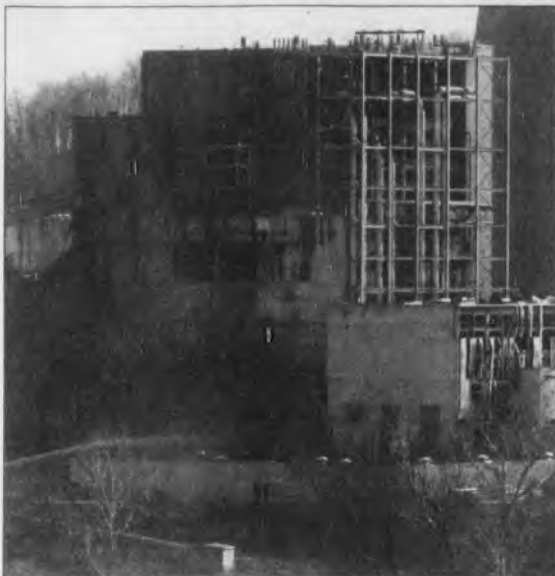
The Muskingum River Plant continued to produce electricity after the explosion although the unit near the blast was shut down.

AEP officials said they were investigating the cause. Federal safety officials also were at the plant, which is near the West Virginia border and about 100 miles southeast of Columbus.

Nine workers were treated at three hospitals in Marietta and Parkersburg, W.Va., for mostly cuts and bruises, authorities said. None of the injuries were life threatening, Michalski said.

One worker at the Parkersburg hospital had head trauma, a spokesman said.

Washington County Sheriff Larry Mincks said the delivery truck caught fire but was still in tact, and there was not major damage to the plant, where 210 people work.



KIUCHIRO SATO | AP PHOTO

BLAST: Firefighters work at American Electric Power's Muskingum River Plant, Monday, Jan. 8, 2007, in Beverly, Ohio after an explosion. Workers were unloading a coolant used for steam generators when the explosion rocked the electricity-generating plant in southeast Ohio, killing one person and injuring about a dozen others, authorities said.

Strickland orders a change in ethics

By Julie Carr Smyth
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS — For \$75, a person used to be able to buy a pretty substantial gift for a favorite government official without that official having to report it. For the \$20 limit allowed under new regulations, giving state workers luxury gifts would be a bit tougher.

Smaller gifts are just one of the changes in ethics rules for state government employees and appointees under Gov. Ted Strickland's first executive order, signed just after he took his oath of office. Among other things, the order also doubles the period during which former state board and commission members are prohibited from lobbying that panel, from

one to two years.

Former Gov. Bob Taft, who was convicted late in his administration of violating state ethics laws, made ethics a priority, too.

Taft, who disclosed amid a state corruption scandal that he had failed to disclose gifts, began preaching high ethical standards the moment he was sworn in Jan. 11, 1999. He called his family legacy "a tradition of integrity" and "ethical conduct in office."

He later summoned the Ohio Ethics Commission to a meeting to lecture top staff on the importance of ethical behavior, and by October 1999 he had signed an executive order of his own that set out to avoid "even the appearance of impropriety."

Under Taft's order, which expired Sunday, state officials were instructed to follow state ethics law on gifts. That law required all gifts over \$75 to be reported annually, allowing smaller gifts to go unreported as long as they do not come from someone seeking to influence government business.

Like Strickland's order, Taft's directive required top cabinet officials to take ethics training. Taft called for four hours of ethics training every two years; Strickland's order calls for creation of a chief ethics officer in each state agency, who will establish training guidelines and assure "employees can easily get answers to questions about what is permissible and what is not."

Foul play causes elevator accident

COLUMBUS (AP) — Students piling onto an already crowded elevator car at Ohio State University may have encouraged still more people to enter, according to a final police report on an accident that killed one of the students when he tried to crawl out of the car after it stopped between floors.

The report by the campus police department says students didn't intend to overload the ele-

vator car but quickly began to fill the car as more and more people arrived.

"Some people may have been holding the doors open to allow more people to enter, and were possibly encouraging more to step onto the elevator," the report said.

Andrew Polakowski, 18, a freshman from Erie, Pa., was killed Oct. 20 when he was pinned between the top of the elevator doors and

the third floor.

In general, the report confirmed details about the accident that had already been investigated.

For example, it said Polakowski had been drinking before the accident but didn't appear intoxicated. Test results released by the county coroner in December showed Polakowski had only a trace amount of alcohol in his system, not enough to impair his abilities.

STATE BRIEF

Teen arrested for firing a gun at school

CINCINNATI (AP) — A ninth-grade student at Taft High School was arrested yesterday after he fired two shots in a hallway, a spokeswoman for Cincinnati Public Schools said. No one was injured.

The 16-year-old boy pulled a gun in the cafeteria of the school about 11 a.m., spokeswoman Janet Walsh said.

"An assistant principal went up and tried to get the gun away," Walsh said. "In the process, the student went into a hallway outside of the cafeteria. The student fired two shots in the hallway, not hitting anyone. There were very few students in the hallway at the time."

The student then left the building, which is less than a block from Cincinnati police headquarters. He was arrested a short time later and was charged with one count of felonious assault, one count of aggravated menacing and two counts of illegally having a weapon, Walsh said.

Strickland vetoes bill

COLUMBUS (AP) — Democratic Gov. Ted Strickland has vetoed a bill passed by the last legislative session that would have placed a \$5,000 limit on certain court damages and created new protections for companies that once sold lead-based paint.

Armed with legal opinions from a new Democratic attorney general and secretary of state, Strickland said the Ohio Constitution allows him to veto the bill despite former Gov. Bob Taft having signaled he would allow it to become law.

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SIDELINES



MEN'S B-BALL

Martin Samarco named MAC East Player of the Week

Samarco scored a career-high 43 points and hit a three-pointer from the deep left corner with 2.8 seconds left to give BGSU a 74-73 win at home over Buffalo. He hit on 16 (career-high) of 24 field goal attempts and 7 (tied career-high) of 12 from long distance. His performances tied for the 10th highest single game output by a Falcon. He also just became the third BG player to score 40 points or more in Anderson Arena.

SCHEDULE

TODAY

Hockey:
at Michigan; 7:35 p.m.

OUR CALL

On the way up

BGSU Basketball: Both the men (10-4) and women (11-2) performed well over Christmas Break. The women were expected to fly high but the men have played above many expectations and have already exceeded last season's win total.



On the way down

Likelihood of a coaching change in BGSU men's basketball: Dan Dakich's team picked the right year to overachieve since it's his contract year.



The List

The BG News gives the top five reasons why Falcon fans should be happy for Urban Meyer and not bitter with him.

1. Remember the good times: It's kind of like when someone you love dies. He gave fans some good memories.

2. SEC or MAC: As respectable as the MAC is, wouldn't you rather coach in the SEC?

3. The history: Shouldn't you be happy that a guy whose team won the championship coached here?

4. Coaching tree: Since BG's current coach is a disciple of Coach Meyer, it could mean that coach Brandon will eventually succeed nationally.

5. Karma: Why hate the guy who could succeed after being a part of the Falcon family? It might come back to haunt you!

On behalf of The BG News, (even the Ohio State fans) Congratulations Coach Meyer.



MARK J. TERRILL | AP PHOTO

FLORIDA 41 | OHIO STATE 14

GATOR-ade never tasted so sweet

Florida upsets heavily favored Buckeyes in BCS Championship game

By Ben Walker
The Associated Press

GLENDAL, Ariz. — Not even close.

Florida — yes, Florida — owned the field it wasn't supposed to be on, embarrassing Heisman Trophy winner Troy Smith and No. 1 Ohio State 41-14 on last night to run away with the college football national championship.

Chris Leak and Tim Tebow showed off coach Urban Meyer's twin quarterback system to perfection as the No. 2 Gators became the first Division I school to hold football and basketball titles at the same time.

Now, only one question remains: What about Boise State, the last undefeated team left standing?

The Broncos stunned Oklahoma on the very same field in the Fiesta Bowl on New Year's Day, while Florida and the Buckeyes finished with identical 13-1 records.

Former Gators star Emmitt Smith did the chomp on the sidelines, punctuating the amazingly easy victory. That left Florida, Wisconsin and Louisville each with one loss, and surely will renew calls for a playoff system.

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See **GATORS** | Page 12



NICK OZA | AP PHOTO

FAR LEFT: Urban Meyer gets a well deserved Gatorade shower from his players after Florida's BCS Championship victory.

LEFT: Troy Smith is chased down by Florida's Earl Everett. Despite losing his helmet, Everett made the tackle on the play.

TEBOW'ED: Tim Tebow rushed and passed for a touchdown as part of a two-QB tandem for the Gators.



CHARLES KRUPA | AP PHOTO

Samarco's buzzer-beater caps off successful Winter Break

By John Turner
Sports Editor

As BGSU's student population was busy making their way back to campus, Falcon guard Martin Samarco was busy making baskets, scoring a career high 43 points en route to a 74-73 Falcon victory over Buffalo.

Samarco scored the final basket of the game, a dramatic 3-pointer from the corner with 2.8 seconds remaining to give BG (10-4, 1-0 MAC) the win in their Mid-American Conference opener.

"In the huddle, I told Coach I was going for the win but he said we would just draw a play up," Samarco said. "When the play did not work, I came to the ball and I knew I was going to make it."

After the shot fell, players celebrated as Anderson Arena erupted in cheers. Meanwhile, the Bulls (8-6, 0-1 MAC) overthrew an inbound pass to the other side of the court that would have given them the win.

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"We're playing undermanned, two starters out, what a gutsy deal by our guys — I can't say enough about them," Dakich said.

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Assistant Sports Editor

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In wins against Akron and Buffalo, the Falcons gave up an average of 37 points per game and held their opponents to 31 percent shooting. "I was really proud of our defense the first two games, it certainly set the tone and [we got] two good wins to get us off and going," said coach Curt Miller.

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"We knew we just had to play good

team defense and work together. If someone gets beat, someone else has to be there to help out," said guard Carin Horne.

AliMann continues to lead the Falcons with 16 points and four rebounds per game to go with a shooting percentage of 57. She is accompanied by Carin Horne who has emerged as one of the Falcons' primary scorers with 11 points per game and has shot 85 percent from the foul line.

The defense and all-around stellar play has helped the Falcons become the highest ranked MAC team ever with a ranking of 18 in the Associated Press Top-25 poll. Close losses to No. 4 Duke and Notre Dame are the only marks against BG and even Miller is pleasantly surprised.

"You couldn't have paid me to believe that we could be 10-2 in non-conference and 12-2 overall. That's a better start than I could have dreamed of with the schedule that we had," Miller said. "I have warriors that I'm fortunate

See **WOMEN** | Page 12

ANDERSON ARENA'S FINEST

THE MEN

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- Amber Flynn's 67 percent shooting leads the conference while Mann is third with 58 percent. The Falcons are 48 percent as a team which is also tops in the conference.
- Kate Achter is third in the MAC in assists with just over 5.



Worker killed in power plant explosion, nine injured

By Mark Williams
The Associated Press

BEVERLY, Ohio — A powerful explosion yesterday at a coal-burning power plant in southeast Ohio killed a worker delivering liquid hydrogen and injured nine others, authorities said.

The delivery driver was unloading hydrogen into cylinders just outside the plant when something triggered the explosion. Plant officials weren't sure whether the truck or hydrogen tubes exploded or what caused it, said Vikki Michalski, a spokeswoman for American Electric Power.

The blast blew out the windows of a nearby building.

"It was real strong," said Doug Burke, who was operating a front-end loader at Reed Minerals, about a half-mile from the plant. "I felt it inside my loader, and I looked up and saw smoke and then fire, and then after that steam."

"If you blinked your eyes you would have missed it," he said.

Although hydrogen gas is highly explosive, it is used to cool

steam generators at the plant because it has a high capacity for heat and it is more efficient than using air.

Hydrogen is delivered to the plant about once a week, Michalski said.

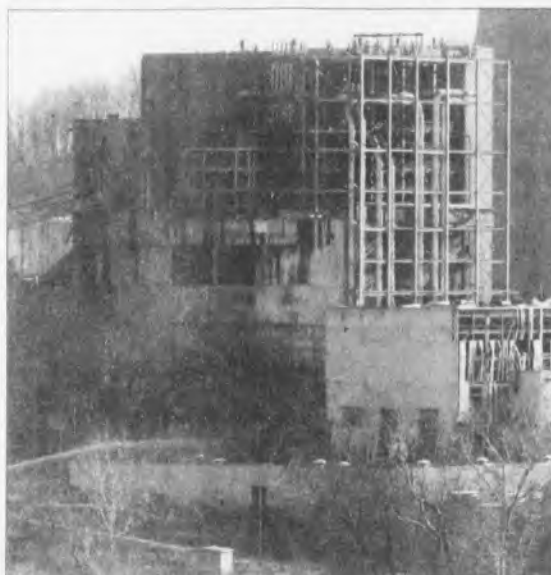
The Muskingum River Plant continued to produce electricity after the explosion although the unit near the blast was shut down.

AEP officials said they were investigating the cause. Federal safety officials also were at the plant, which is near the West Virginia border and about 100 miles southeast of Columbus.

Nine workers were treated at three hospitals in Marietta and Parkersburg, W.Va., for mostly cuts and bruises, authorities said. None of the injuries were life threatening, Michalski said.

One worker at the Parkersburg hospital had head trauma, a spokesman said.

Washington County Sheriff Larry Mincks said the delivery truck caught fire but was still in tact, and there was not major damage to the plant, where 210 people work.



KIICHIRO SATO AP/WIDEWORLD

BLAST: Firefighters work at American Electric Power's Muskingum River Plant, Monday, Jan. 8, 2007, in Beverly, Ohio after an explosion. Workers were unloading a coolant used for steam generators when the explosion rocked the electricity-generating plant in southeast Ohio, killing one person and injuring about a dozen others, authorities said.

Strickland orders a change in ethics

By Julie Carr Smyth
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS — For \$75, a person used to be able to buy a pretty substantial gift for a favorite government official without that official having to report it. For the \$20 limit allowed under new regulations, giving state workers luxury gifts would be a bit tougher.

Smaller gifts are just one of the changes in ethics rules for state government employees and appointees under Gov. Ted Strickland's first executive order, signed just after he took his oath of office. Among other things, the order also doubles the period during which former state board and commission members are prohibited from lobbying that panel, from

one to two years.

Former Gov. Bob Taft, who was convicted late in his administration of violating state ethics laws, made ethics a priority, too.

Taft, who disclosed amid a state corruption scandal that he had failed to disclose gifts, began preaching high ethical standards the moment he was sworn in Jan. 11, 1999. He called his family legacy "a tradition of integrity" and "ethical conduct in office."

He later summoned the Ohio Ethics Commission to a meeting to lecture top staff on the importance of ethical behavior, and by October 1999 he had signed an executive order of his own that set out to avoid "even the appearance of impropriety."

Under Taft's order, which expired Sunday, state officials were instructed to follow state ethics law on gifts. That law required all gifts over \$75 to be reported annually, allowing smaller gifts to go unreported as long as they do not come from someone seeking to influence government business.

Like Strickland's order, Taft's directive required top cabinet officials to take ethics training. Taft called for four hours of ethics training every two years; Strickland's order calls for creation of a chief ethics officer in each state agency, who will establish training guidelines and assure "employees can easily get answers to questions about what is permissible and what is not."

Foul play causes elevator accident

COLUMBUS (AP) — Students piling onto an already crowded elevator car at Ohio State University may have encouraged still more people to enter, according to a final police report on an accident that killed one of the students when he tried to crawl out of the car after it stopped between floors.

The report by the campus police department says students didn't intend to overload the ele-

vator car but quickly began to fill the car as more and more people arrived.

"Some people may have been holding the doors open to allow more people to enter, and were possibly encouraging more to step onto the elevator," the report said.

Andrew Polakowski, 18, a freshman from Erie, Pa., was killed Oct. 20 when he was pinned between the top of the elevator doors and

the third floor.

In general, the report confirmed details about the accident that had already been investigated.

For example, it said Polakowski had been drinking before the accident but didn't appear intoxicated. Test results released by the county coroner in December showed Polakowski had only a trace amount of alcohol in his system, not enough to impair his abilities.

STATE BRIEF

Teen arrested for firing a gun at school

CINCINNATI (AP) — A ninth-grade student at Taft High School was arrested yesterday after he fired two shots in a hallway, a spokeswoman for Cincinnati Public Schools said. No one was injured.

The 16-year-old boy pulled a gun in the cafeteria of the school about 11 a.m., spokeswoman Janet Walsh said.

"An assistant principal went up and tried to get the gun away," Walsh said. "In the process, the student went into a hallway outside of the cafeteria. The student fired two shots in the hallway, not hitting anyone. There were very few students in the hallway at the time."

The student then left the building, which is less than a block from Cincinnati police headquarters. He was arrested a short time later and was charged with one count of felonious assault, one count of aggravated menacing and two counts of illegally having a weapon, Walsh said.

Strickland vetoes bill

COLUMBUS (AP) — Democratic Gov. Ted Strickland has vetoed a bill passed by the last legislative session that would have placed a \$5,000 limit on certain court damages and created new protections for companies that once sold lead-based paint.

Armed with legal opinions from a new Democratic attorney general and secretary of state, Strickland said the Ohio Constitution allows him to veto the bill despite former Gov. Bob Taft having signaled he would allow it to become law.

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SIDELINES



MEN'S B-BALL

Martin Samarco named MAC East Player of the Week

Samarco scored a career-high 43 points and hit a three-pointer from the deep left corner with 2.8 seconds left to give BGSU a 74-73 win at home over Buffalo. He hit on 16 (career-high) of 24 field goal attempts and 7 (tied career-high) of 12 from long distance. His performances tied for the 10th highest single game output by a Falcon. He also just became the third BG player to score 40 points or more in Anderson Arena.

SCHEDULE

TODAY

Hockey:
at Michigan; 7:35 p.m.

FOOTBALL

On the way up

BGSU Basketball: Both the men (10-4) and women (11-2) performed well over Christmas Break. The women were expected to fly high but the men have played above many expectations and have already exceeded last season's win total.

On the way down

Likelihood of a coaching change in BGSU men's basketball: Dan Dakich's team picked the right year to overachieve since it's his contract year.

The List

The BG News gives the top five reasons why Falcon fans should be happy for Urban Meyer and not bitter with him.

1. Remember the good times: It's kind of like when someone you love dies. He gave fans some good memories.

2. SEC or MAC: As respectable as the MAC is, wouldn't you rather coach in the SEC?

3. The history: Shouldn't you be happy that a guy whose team won the championship coached here?

4. Coaching tree: Since BG's current coach is a disciple of Coach Meyer, it could mean that coach Brandon will eventually succeed nationally.

5. Karma: Why hate the guy who could succeed after being a part of the Falcon family? It might come back to haunt you!

On behalf of The BG News, (even the Ohio State fans) Congratulations Coach Meyer.



MARK J. TERRILL / AP/WIDEWORLD

FLORIDA 41 | OHIO STATE 14

GATOR-ade never tasted so sweet

Florida upsets heavily favored Buckeyes in BCS Championship game

By Ben Walker
The Associated Press

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NICK OZA / AP/WIDEWORLD

FAR LEFT: Urban Meyer's twin quarterbacks, Chris Leak and Tim Tebow, showed off their system during the BCS Championship game.

LEFT: Troy Smith's 93-yard kickoff return for a touchdown gave Florida a 14-0 lead in the first quarter.

TEBOW'ED: Tim Tebow's 11-yard touchdown pass to Chris Leak gave Florida a 21-0 lead in the second quarter.



CHARLES KRUPA

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See **WOMEN** | Page 12

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Falcons still having trouble winning games

By Chayse Held
Reporter

After a 20-day layoff over the Holidays, the BG hockey team is back on the ice for the second half of the 2006-07 season.

Despite staggering to a 5-16-1 start, which is good for last place in the CCHA, the Falcons have showed some signs of improved play since returning to action in the last two weekends.

With a split against Western Michigan this past weekend and upcoming series against Nebraska-Omaha and Northern Michigan, BG looks to gain some ground in the league standings.

"It's not rocket science that we've been struggling this year," said goalie Jimmy Spratt. "But if you look at the schedule, our next few games are against teams that are just above us. If we can get on a run and put a lot of wins together we can make a jump and really turn the season around."

The Falcons took the first step to turning the year around in their first game of 2007, with perhaps the team's best performance of the season, a 5-1 drubbing of Western Michigan (7-11-1, 6-8-1) this past Friday. A total team effort was highlighted by forward Jonathan Matsumoto's 100th career point and a solid showing by Spratt (17 saves) in goal.

Any hopes of a winning streak quickly evaporated Saturday night when Western Michigan answered Friday's drubbing with a 5-0 victory.

Despite holding a 37-26 shot advantage, BG went scoreless on all nine of its power play opportunities, including a five-minute major at the start of the game. The Broncos scored two goals with the man-advantage and two more shorthanded. They even managed to score a goal while the Falcons had a 5-on-3 advantage.

"We were disappointed tonight," coach Scott Paluch said following Saturday's loss. "We wanted to feed off [Friday] night and give ourselves the chance to earn a sweep. Our inability to score goals didn't give us a chance to do that."

In the Falcons' first action after the break on Dec. 29-30,



JORDAN FLOWER | THE BG NEWS

BACK IN ACTION: As the Falcons got back into action, so did their enforcer James Unger. Out all season with an arm injury, Unger returned to the lineup in Columbus for the Falcons.

BG joined Ohio State, Miami and Minnesota-Duluth at the Ohio Hockey Classic held at Nationwide Arena in Columbus.

In a non-conference match-up, BG lost its third game to Miami this season; a tight 3-2 decision to the No. 4 Redhawks (15-5-1) in the tournament's opening game. James Unger, back from injury, recorded his first goal of the season while Matsumoto also scored. Spratt had 19 saves on the game.

"I thought it was a pretty good hockey game for both teams being on the Christmas break," Paluch said. "What we saw there was their ability to find a way to win hockey games. I gave a lot of credit to them. They are a top team for a reason."

In the consolation game, the Falcons faced Minnesota-Duluth in a rematch of the 1984 national championship game. This time the Bulldogs

CCHA STANDINGS

BG will have to work hard to catch up to the rest of the conference as they get into the heart of conference play.

East Team	W-L	Ovr. W-L
Miami (OH)	11-4-1	16-7-1
Notre Dame	11-2-1	13-6-3
Lake Superior	7-4-3	13-6-3
Michigan State	8-6-1	12-8-1
Ohio State	7-6-3	9-9-4
Michigan	8-5	13-8
Alaska	5-6-3	7-9-4
Western Michigan	6-8-1	7-11-1
Nebraska-Omaha	5-7-2	8-9-6
Northern Michigan	5-10-1	8-13-2
Ferris State	3-10-2	5-13-2
BGSU	5-11	5-16-1

(5-13-3) were victorious, grabbing a 4-3 win. All three BG goals in the game were scored by freshmen: Tommy Dee, Todd McIlrath and Kai Kantola.

BG is back in action tonight on short rest as they travel to Ann Arbor to take on No. 10 Michigan in a CCHA contest.

Gator fans share excitement with pre-game parties in Gainesville

By Jim Ellis
The Associated Press



JOHN RAOUX | AP PHOTO

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Florida students Carley Glasser and Claire Pulignano waved a large blue tarpaulin with "Go Gators" in orange letters from the front row of the arena where thousands of fans gathered to watch last night's national championship football game on video screens.

Glasser and Pulignano, screaming and cheering, shouted school chants along with about 11,000 other Gator fans at UF's basketball arena, the O'Connell Center. They filled the stadium to capacity within minutes to watch the game simulcast live on four large video screens.

Pulignano brought the makeshift banner to protect her and her friends from the rain that drenched them as they waited in line beginning at 10:30 a.m. — about eight hours before doors opened at the arena.

"When the rain stopped, we decided to turn our tarp into a banner," said Pulignano.

With less than a minute to go in the first half, Gator fans were euphoric, dancing in their seats, in the aisles and on the court. At halftime their team led 34-14 in the BCS Championship game against No. 1 Ohio State in Arizona.

Graduate student Chris Andrus, 24, described his feel-

JACKED UP: University of Florida students cheer while watching Florida football highlights, prior to the BCS National Championship football game against Ohio State, on big screens at the school's basketball arena in Gainesville, Fla.

ings during the first half as "euphoric."

Florida student Christopher Heagney, 23, said he brought his girlfriend Haesuk La for good luck.

"Every time I bring my girlfriend with me the Gators win," Heagney said.

Gators fans started celebrating before the game even started.

"This weekend has been crazy. We've been going to different house parties and just crashing at friend's homes," said Jorge Duran, 25, a 2004 UF alum. He traveled from his home in Miami on Friday and since then has been "partying nonstop."

Wearing an orange sweat band on his right wrist, Duran started partying with more than 40 friends at a Gainesville home more than five hours

before kickoff.

"I've been unbelievably excited. I'm a nervous wreck," he said.

Duran and friends describe their celebration as a "hard-core barbecue." On the menu is venison chili, two pork shoulders, ham and grilled tenderloin. Oh yeah, don't forget the open bar and 100-inch projector TV, he said.

"This is one helluva roller-coaster ride," Duran said.

Florida student Alison Rakes prepared for the game by putting together the right outfit — the same orange and blue jacket, white T-shirt, and beaded bracelet she wore nine months ago when the Gator basketball team won that sport's national

See **FLORIDA** | Page 12

Columbus parties its way to the BCS Championship game with fan support

By Matt Leingang
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, — About 6,000 Ohio State students and faculty fixed their attention on a giant scoreboard in the school's basketball arena last night, cheering on their top-ranked football team as the Buckeyes sought their second national title in

five years.

The crowd stood for the opening kickoff and erupted into cheers when Ted Ginn Jr. returned the kick 93 yards for a touchdown.

But No. 2 Florida dominated the rest of the first quarter, and the crowd became subdued as they watched the Buckeyes fall behind 24-14 as the second quarter got under way.

Student Ryan Conroy, 18, of Bellaire, said he was a little disappointed with how the Buckeyes started the game.

"I'm a little upset, they came out shaky," he said. "But I think they have a strong second-half team and I'm confident they can come back."

The crowd, watching the game played in Arizona on a live telecast, was entertained before kickoff by about 40 members of Ohio State's pep band, which played the school's fight song and other favorites.

They also watched a videotaped message from coach Jim Tressel, who promised them the team would play hard and represent the school with class.



JAY LAPRETE | AP PHOTO

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"I'll have a ton of work when I return, but it will be worth it," she said.

While the excitement level was high, some Buckeyes fans said the hype and buzz leading up to this game wasn't so intense as when Ohio State defeated Miami for the national championship in 2003 — after a title drought of 34 years. This time, the Buckeyes are favored

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FLYING HIGH: LaDainian Tomlinson points to the sky after a Chargers win over Denver. He has the Chargers in the playoffs with homefield advantage and has been named an Associated Press All-Pro.

Tomlinson, Bailey, Taylor all finish season as All-Pros

By Barry Wilner
The Associated Press

LaDainian Tomlinson, Jason Taylor and Champ Bailey capped superb seasons by unanimously making The Associated Press NFL All-Pro team announced yesterday.

Tomlinson, San Diego's record-setting running back, also won the AP Most Valuable Player and Offensive Player of the Year awards. Miami end Taylor was the Defensive Player of the Year.

Bailey tied for the league lead with 10 interceptions even though opponents tried to avoid throwing to the Broncos cornerback's side of the field.

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It worked out so well for him.

Tomlinson — who set NFL records for points with 186, touchdowns with 31 and TDs rushing with 28 — and Bailey that they received all 50 votes from a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters who cover the NFL.

Two others, both Chicago Bears, came close to sweeping the vote. Devin Hester, who set a league mark with six kick returns for touchdowns, was the only rookie on the team, earning 48 1/2 votes. Middle linebacker Brian Urlacher, a repeater from last year, got 48.

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In all, the Chargers had the most All-Pros with five: Tomlinson, tight end Antonio Gates, fullback Lorenzo Neal, defensive tackle Jamal Williams and linebacker Shawne Merriman, who made it despite serving a four-game suspension.

See **ALL-PROS** | Page 12

Despite many pleas by participants, BCS definitely will not change before 2010

By Ralph D. Russo
The Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — If the Bowl Championship Series were to adopt a mini-playoff format, it wouldn't happen until at least the 2010 college football season.

BCS coordinator and Southeastern Conference commissioner Mike Slive said Monday he was "very, very open-minded about a plus-one," which could create a four-team playoff.

"I think we need to take a very hard look at that," Slive told reporters at a Football Writers Association of America meeting.

But a full-fledged NFL-style playoff has no chance of happening anytime soon, Slive said.

"The question is 'Is 1 and 2 enough?'" he said.

Slive doesn't expect any changes until Fox's four-year \$320 million TV deal ends with the 2010 bowls.

The plus-one model was discussed by the BCS, though never seriously, when it expanded to five games and scheduled the championship game after the four major bowls. The first BCS national championship game was played Monday night between No. 1 Ohio State and No. 2 Florida at University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale.

Although current TV contracts would not prohibit a BCS format change, Slive said it seemed unlikely any major alterations could be made in time to affect the current arrangement.

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With the plus-one model that has received the most attention, the top four teams would be seeded into two of the marquee bowls, essentially creating national semifinals. The winners would play a week later for the national title.

Another possible plus-one format would set the bowls using traditional ties-ins — such as Pac-10 and Big Ten championships meeting in the Rose Bowl and the SEC champ playing in

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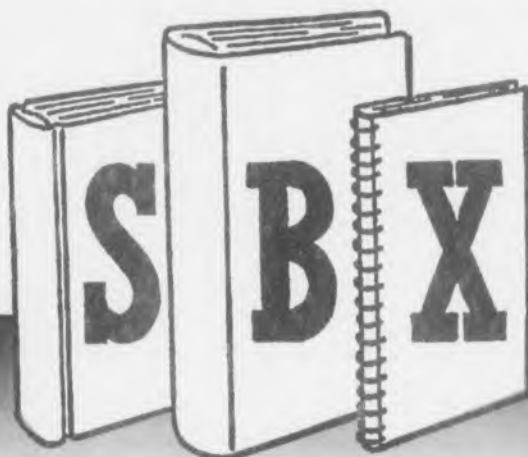
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Ultimately, university presidents will make the decision, and they have shown little support for a playoff in the past.

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See **BCS** | Page 12



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Falcons still having trouble winning games

By Chayse Held
Reporter

After a 20-day layoff over the Holidays, the BG hockey team is back on the ice for the second half of the 2006-07 season.

Despite staggering to a 5-16-1 start, which is good for last place in the CCHA, the Falcons have showed some signs of improved play since returning to action in the last two weekends.

With a split against Western Michigan this past weekend and upcoming series against Nebraska-Omaha and Northern Michigan, BG looks to gain some ground in the league standings.

"It's not rocket science that we've been struggling this year," said goalie Jimmy Spratt. "But if you look at the schedule, our next few games are against teams that are just above us. If we can get on a run and put a lot of wins together we can make a jump and really turn the season around."

The Falcons took the first step to turning the year around in their first game of 2007, with perhaps the team's best performance of the season, a 5-1 drubbing of Western Michigan (7-11-1, 6-8-1) this past Friday. A total team effort was highlighted by forward Jonathan Matsumoto's 100th career point and a solid showing by Spratt (17 saves) in goal.

Any hopes of a winning streak quickly evaporated Saturday night when Western Michigan answered Friday's drubbing with a 5-0 victory.

Despite holding a 37-26 shot advantage, BG went scoreless on all nine of its power play opportunities, including a five-minute major at the start of the game. The Broncos scored two goals with the man-advantage and two more shorthanded. They even managed to score a goal while the Falcons had a 5-on-3 advantage.

"We were disappointed tonight," coach Scott Paluch said following Saturday's loss. "We wanted to feed off [Friday] night and give ourselves the chance to earn a sweep. Our inability to score goals didn't give us a chance to do that."

In the Falcons' first action after the break on Dec. 29-30,



JORDAN FLOWER | THE BG NEWS

BACK IN ACTION: As the Falcons got back into action, so did their enforcer James Unger. Out all season with an arm injury, Unger returned to the lineup in Columbus for the Falcons.

BG joined Ohio State, Miami and Minnesota-Duluth at the Ohio Hockey Classic held at Nationwide Arena in Columbus.

In a non-conference match-up, BG lost its third game to Miami this season; a tight 3-2 decision to the No. 4 Redhawks (15-5-1) in the tournament's opening game. James Unger, back from injury, recorded his first goal of the season while Matsumoto also scored. Spratt had 19 saves on the game.

"I thought it was a pretty good hockey game for both teams being on the Christmas break," Paluch said. "What we saw there was their ability to find a way to win hockey games. I gave a lot of credit to them. They are a top team for a reason."

In the consolation game, the Falcons faced Minnesota-Duluth in a rematch of the 1984 national championship game. This time the Bulldogs

CCHA STANDINGS

BG will have to work hard to catch up to the rest of the conference as they get into the heart of conference play.

East Team	Div. W-L	Ovr. W-L
Miami (OH)	11-4-1	16-7-1
Notre Dame	11-2-1	13-6-3
Lake Superior	7-4-3	13-6-3
Michigan State	8-6-1	12-8-1
Ohio State	7-6-3	9-9-4
Michigan	8-5	13-8
Alaska	5-6-3	7-9-4
Western Michigan	6-8-1	7-11-1
Nebraska-Omaha	5-7-2	8-9-6
Northern Michigan	5-10-1	8-13-2
Ferris State	3-10-2	5-13-2
BGSU	3-11	5-16-1

(5-13-3) were victorious, grabbing a 4-3 win. All three BG goals in the game were scored by freshmen: Tommy Dee, Todd McIlrath and Kai Kantola.

BG is back in action tonight on short rest as they travel to Ann Arbor to take on No. 10 Michigan in a CCHA contest.

Gator fans share excitement with pre-game parties in Gainesville

By Jim Ellis
The Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Florida students Carley Glasser and Claire Pulignano waved a large blue tarpaulin with "Go Gators" in orange letters from the front row of the arena where thousands of fans gathered to watch last night's national championship football game on video screens.

Glasser and Pulignano, screaming and cheering, shouted school chants along with about 11,000 other Gator fans at UF's basketball arena, the O'Connell Center. They filled the stadium to capacity within minutes to watch the game simulcast live on four large video screens.

Pulignano brought the makeshift banner to protect her and her friends from the rain that drenched them as they waited in line beginning at 10:30 a.m. — about eight hours before doors opened at the arena.

"When the rain stopped, we decided to turn our tarp into a banner," said Pulignano.

With less than a minute to go in the first half, Gators fans were euphoric, dancing in their seats, in the aisles and on the court. At halftime their team led 34-14 in the BCS Championship game against No. 1 Ohio State in Arizona.

Graduate student Chris Andrus, 24, described his feel-



JOHN RADUX | AP PHOTO

JACKED UP: University of Florida students cheer while watching Florida football highlights, prior to the BCS National Championship football game against Ohio State, on big screens at the school's basketball arena in Gainesville, Fla.

ings during the first half as "euphoric."

Florida student Christopher Heagney, 23, said he brought his girlfriend Haesuk La for good luck.

"Every time I bring my girlfriend with me the Gators win," Heagney said.

Gators fans started celebrating before the game even started.

"This weekend has been crazy. We've been going to different house parties and just crashing at friend's homes," said Jorge Duran, 25, a 2004 UF alum. He traveled from his home in Miami on Friday and since then has been "partying nonstop."

Wearing an orange sweat band on his right wrist, Duran started partying with more than 40 friends at a Gainesville home more than five hours

before kickoff.

"I've been unbelievably excited. I'm a nervous wreck," he said.

Duran and friends describe their celebration as a "hard-core barbecue." On the menu is venison chili, two pork shoulders, ham and grilled tenderloin. Oh yeah, don't forget the open bar and 100-inch projector TV, he said.

"This is one helluva roller-coaster ride," Duran said.

Florida student Alison Rakes prepared for the game by putting together the right outfit — the same orange and blue jacket, white T-shirt, and beaded bracelet she wore nine months ago when the Gator basketball team won that sport's national

See FLORIDA | Page 12

Columbus parties its way to the BCS Championship game with fan support

By Matt Leingang
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, — About 6,000 Ohio State students and faculty fixed their attention on a giant scoreboard in the school's basketball arena last night, cheering on their top-ranked football team as the Buckeyes sought their second national title in

five years. The crowd stood for the opening kickoff and erupted into cheers when Ted Ginn Jr. returned the kick 93 yards for a touchdown.

But No. 2 Florida dominated the rest of the first quarter, and the crowd became subdued as they watched the Buckeyes fall behind 24-14 as the second quarter got under way.

Student Ryan Conroy, 18, of Bellaire, said he was a little disappointed with how the Buckeyes started the game.

"I'm a little upset, they came out shaky," he said. "But I think they have a strong second-half team and I'm confident they can come back."

The crowd, watching the game played in Arizona on a live telecast, was entertained before kickoff by about 40 members of Ohio State's pep band, which played the school's fight song and other favorites.

They also watched a videotaped message from coach Jim Tressel, who promised them the team would play hard and represent the school with class.



JAY LAPRETE | AP PHOTO

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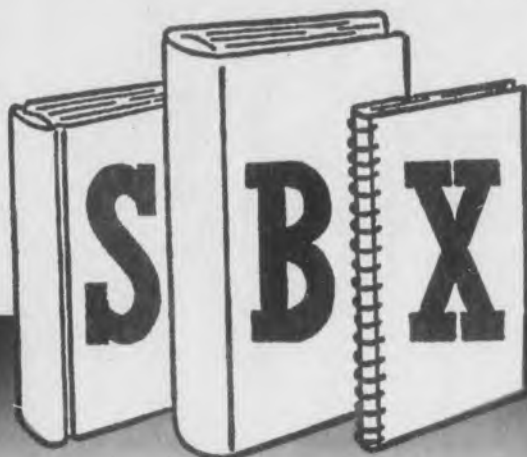
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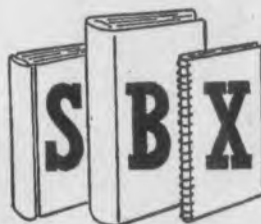


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GATORS

From Page 9

powered into the end zone for another.

Smith, meanwhile, joined a long list of Heisman Trophy quarterbacks — Jason White, Eric Crouch and Gino Torretta, among them — to fall apart in bowl games. He was just 4-for-14 with one interception and never showed off his elusive running.

Instead, defensive ends Derrick Harvey and Jarvis Moss made it a miserable night for Smith. Linebacker Earl Everett got into the act, too, running down Smith despite missing his helmet.

Florida won its second national title, adding to the one Heisman winner Danny Wuerffel brought home in 1996 under coach Steve Spurrier with a 52-20 romp over Florida State in the Sugar Bowl.

This time, the man in charge was the 42-year-old Meyer, once a .200 hitter in the low minors in Atlanta's farm system. Since then, he's made a rocket rise in the coaching ranks, topped off by a title in his second year at Florida.

The Bowl Championship Series added an extra game this

year to determine a champion. Some fans were certain Michigan deserved to be here, that is until it got pounded by Southern California in the Rose Bowl.

This game had no name — perhaps now it might be the Meyer Bowl, at least for a year.

Ohio State coach Jim Tressel's team looked as if they belonged at the Holiday Bowl, because it took this night off. Given 51 days to prepare, and favored by a solid touchdown, the Buckeyes were confused from the get-go once Florida got the ball.

In the first football matchup between these schools — they've both played the sport for 100-plus years — the Gators emphatically stopped Ohio State's 19-game winning streak.

The Buckeyes beat a pair of No. 2 teams earlier in the season, defending champion Texas and Michigan. They were no match for Florida's speed, strategy and style.

The Buckeyes looked completely flummoxed by Florida's frenetic offense at the outset. Trying to match up with the Gators' shifting formations, they often jumped around at the line and still were out of position.

Leak gladly took advantage

of the confusion, picking wide-open receivers at will and hitting his first nine passes. Criticized most of his career for a lack of fire, the guy with the soft, green eyes seemed real comfortable.

Meyer's gadgets made it easy pickins for the Gators. They came out in a five-wide set after Ginn's return and Leak hit Dallas Baker with a tying, 14-yard touchdown pass.

The next time they touched the ball, the Gators let Leak, Tebow and scatback Percy Harvin all take direct snaps from center. Harvin later tucked it under his right arm — the one with a lion tattoo — and powered for a 4-yard TD.

A flanker reverse by Andre Caldwell helped Florida move to a third-and-goal at the 2 as the first quarter ended. When the second period began, Meyer immediately reached into his bag of tricks.

Florida put three running backs directly behind Leak — a power-I-plus — and gave the ball to the last one. DeShawn Wynn scored on the first play of the quarter, plunging into the end zone right in front of the Gators' band, for a stunning 21-7 lead.

Ohio State returned to its roots and ran the ball. Antonio



NAME NAME NAME | THE BG NEWS

GOOD SPORTS: Chris Leak is embraced by Troy Smith after the Florida Gators won the BCS Championship Game. Smith was outplayed by Leak, but won this year's Heisman Trophy. Leak was highly criticized heading into the game.

Pittman's 18-yard burst made it 21-14 with 13:32 left before halftime.

Undaunted, the Gators came back with something totally out of character, even for them — field goals.

Chris Hetland was only 4-for-13 on kicks this season, and his longest was 33 yards. But Meyer said he would trust him in this game, and Hetland made good, from 42 and 40 yards on the next two possessions.

Hetland's second kick came after Tressel showed a little early desperation, gambling on fourth-

and-1 at his own 29 and saw Chris Wells stuffed.

The Buckeyes got the ball on their 20 with less than two minutes left before halftime and were determined to see a score before the break. They did — by Florida.

Moss sacked Smith and forced him to fumble, and the Gators took over at 5. Tebow ran twice up the middle, then faked a quarterback draw, rolled to the left and tossed a 1-yard TD pass to Caldwell.

At 34-14, fans on both sides were stunned as the teams ran to the locker rooms.

BUCKS

From Page 10

to win and haven't played in more than 50 days.

"Last time it was like, wow, we're here in the title game. Now, we're confident that we can win and we're expecting to have a good time," said Steve Soltis, 28, wearing a scarlet jersey with No. 10, the number of Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Troy Smith. He arrived at 1:30 p.m. to grab a good seat at the Buckeye Hall, a restaurant and banquet hall with capacity for 2,000 people.

About 80 workers, 20 more than a usual game day, were on duty and 75 kegs were ready for tapping, manager Johnny Dinh said.

With the game out of state, heavy crowds weren't expected on campus.

The 6,000 fans at Value City Arena were a far cry from the 100,000 people who attend sold-out football games at Ohio Stadium.

The Arena Grand Theatre in a bar district near downtown and the Drexel Gateway Theater near campus also planned to show the game.

University officials hoped to avoid disturbances on

"Last time it was like, wow, we're here in the title game. Now, we're confident that we can win."

Steve Soltis | OSU Fan

campus, where fans overturned cars, set fires and ripped doors off apartment buildings after a 2002 victory over rival Michigan.

Just in case, city police banned parking, towed illegally parked vehicles, emptied trash bins and placed undercover officers in neighborhoods around the university to dissuade rowdy fan behavior, win or lose. Police also installed portable lights on street corners and alleys to make it easier to monitor people coming out of bars and restaurants.

The measures were similar to a plan the city used to minimize problems when the Buckeyes beat Michigan in Columbus on Nov. 18. Police arrested nearly 40 people and dozens of fires were set in student neighborhoods, but school officials were generally pleased with the post-game celebrations.

WOMEN

From Page 9

to coach every day and they believed they could have this start."

As they continue conference play, the Falcons have quite a few numbers to be proud of. They are shooting 48 percent from the field and 40 percent from long range while holding their opponents to 37 percent from the field and 28 percent from beyond the arc.

The defense gave up just 49 points per game in the MAC Tournament and started the season the same way to extend their now 27-game conference win streak.

"Even though Coach Miller is a more offensive-minded coach, he is always stressing defense, defense, defense," said forward Megan Thorburn. "I think it's just [a result of] getting hands on passes, getting up on them and playing good team defense."

The Falcons will face conference foe Kent State tomorrow at Anderson Arena in a rematch of the past two MAC Tournament championship games.

ALL-PROS

From Page 11

sion for violating the league's steroids policy. Merriman still wound up with a league-best 17 sacks.

"When you've got five guys on the All-Pro team, that says a lot," said Tomlinson, who did a lot to give San Diego the league's best record, 14-2. "I think that's significant and ... I'm obviously very happy to be named on it."

The Bears were next with four All-Pro: Urlacher, Hester, center Olin Kreutz and kicker Robbie Gould.

Saints quarterback Drew Brees edged the Colts' Peyton Manning 25 votes to 24 for the quarterback spot. It was the first time since 2002 that Manning was not the first-team quarterback.

Brees engineered the turnaround in New Orleans from 3-13 to 10-6 and an NFC South division title.

He was joined on the All-Pro squad by Saints second-year tackle Jammal Brown.

Kansas City's Larry Johnson was selected in the backfield with Brees, a former Charger, and the two San Diego backs.

The wideouts are Marvin Harrison of Indianapolis and

Chad Johnson of Cincinnati.

Another Bengal, tackle Willie Anderson, is on the offensive line, where he's joined by Philadelphia guard Shawn Andrews and Pittsburgh guard Alan Faneca.

Taylor anchors a defense also featuring Carolina end Julius Peppers, Minnesota tackle Kevin Williams, Baltimore linebacker Adalius Thomas, Miami linebacker Zach Thomas, Jacksonville cornerback Rashean Mathis, Philadelphia safety Brian Dawkins and Baltimore safety Ed Reed.

"It means a lot," said Adalius Thomas, a first-time All-Pro. "It's a tribute not to myself, but to a lot of the guys up front. I don't think you could have a good linebacking corps without good defensive linemen. That's a tribute to Kelly Gregg, Haloti Ngata, Trevor Pryce and all those guys and the other linebackers, Ray Lewis, Bart Scott and Terrell Suggs."

Buffalo's Brian Moorman is the punter.

Repeaters from 2005 are Gates, Chad Johnson, Anderson, Faneca, Jamal Williams, Urlacher, Bailey and Moorman.

In all, there are 18 AFC players and 10 from the NFC.

BCS

From Page 11

need to think about this and make some decisions about whether or not the BCS format should be the way it is today or whether they want to talk about some other format," Slive said.

The new five-game BCS format has one bowl site hosting two games in eight days. This season, the Fiesta Bowl hosted the championship game. The Sugar Bowl, which returned to the Superdome on Jan. 3 after skipping a year because of Hurricane Katrina, is scheduled to host two games next season.

MEN

From Page 9

BG led by as many as 16 in the first half, before seeing its lead dwindle two just one point by halftime. Leading the comeback charge for Buffalo was Eric Moore, who connected on 11-of-16.3-point attempts and scored 35 points in all.

Buffalo coach Reggie Witherspoon credits a staunch defense with keeping the Bulls in the game early on.

"We started to play a little harder and less hesitant," Witherspoon said. "They also missed a few shots that they seemed to make down the stretch. Our defense was also a little bit more aggressive."

In the end, Samarco and the Falcons were just too much for Witherspoon's squad to overcome. Samarco's 43 points was the most for a Falcon since Keith McLeod had 42, also against Buffalo, in the 2002 season and is the most by a MAC player this season.

"I started getting comfortable when they were going for my shot fake early," Samarco said. "But this all started in practice as were prepared for this game. I just got to a good start and kept rolling with it."

Since Winter Break let out for BGSU students, the Falcons have won six-of-seven games and find themselves tied with Ohio University at the top of the MAC for total wins (10). These two teams will square off Thursday in Athens as BG looks to stay perfect in MAC play.

FLORIDA

From Page 10

championship.

"I can't even sleep anymore. It's all I've been talking about this week," said Rakes, a 21-year-old elementary education major.

The Gainesville Police Department had about 150 patrol officers on duty for last night's festivities, Sgt. Keith Kameg said.

"We are treating this like a Florida State game," said Kameg, who said that officers would be on the lookout for fans exhibiting aggressive behavior.

Everyone acted responsibly when UF won the basketball championship in April because officers gave celebrants enough space to vent until they calmed down, he said.

"We want people to yell and then yell some more," Kameg said. "But we just want fans to be safe."

UF students took to the streets and cheered through the early morning hours after the basketball championship and officers are prepared to match the students' energy and patrol until the city's streets have emptied.

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APARTMENTS



LYNN HEY | AP PHOTO

LAB DEVELOPMENTS: Dr. Anthony Atala, head of Wake Forest's regenerative medicine institute, is photographed in his research lab at Piedmont Triad Research Park in Winston-Salem, NC, Friday, Jan. 5, 2007. Scientists reported Sunday they had found a plentiful source of stem cells in the fluid that cushions babies in the womb and produced a variety of tissue types from these cells — sidestepping the controversy over destroying embryos for research. Researchers at Wake Forest University and Harvard University reported the stem cells they drew from amniotic fluid donated by pregnant women hold much the same promise as embryonic stem cells.

New stem cells found

By Catherine Clabby
MCT

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — A Wake Forest University scientist says he has discovered a new class of stem cells in women's wombs that may provide an alternative to highly controversial embryonic stem cells.

The new cells, unlike embryonic cells, could be harvested without the destruction of early-stage human embryos. That means research and development of treatments using these cells would probably not be subject to the tight financial restrictions the Bush administration has imposed on scientific work involving embryonic stem cells.

Dr. Anthony Atala and collaborators at Wake Forest and Harvard universities found the cells in amniotic fluid, the liquid that surrounds embryos and fetuses in women's wombs. The fluid is routinely extracted during pre-natal tests. The team has also isolated these cells in the placenta, the blood-rich organ that nourishes fetuses in the womb and is usually

discarded after birth.

If the cells fulfill their promise — and not all scientists are certain that they will — they could one day be saved at a person's birth for use later in life, Atala said. Or they could be banked to help cure diseases and make body parts that closely match the biological profiles of people needing treatment, expanding the supply of transplant organs.

"The cells are more readily available than most. There are 4.5 million births in this country each year," said Atala, director of the Institute for Regenerative Medicine at Wake Forest University School of Medicine. Atala's discovery was unveiled in a report published Sunday in the journal *Nature Biotechnology*.

Atala said the cells he has identified are different from embryonic stem cells, but may play a role in embryonic growth and development. He suspects that amniotic fluid, as it courses through and around developing fetuses, picks up the cells they shed.

"The fetus is swallowing fluid

and breathing it in through the nose. Not only does it travel through the respiratory tract, it gets into the [gastrointestinal] tract, the bladder and the kidney. This stuff is chock full of fetal cells," Atala said.

Stem cells offer medical promise because they aren't yet specialized to perform specific biological tasks. Instead, they can be transformed with the right chemical signals to tackle different jobs, as needed.

Scientists all over the world are rushing to develop treatments using multiple types of stem cells. Many envision them as potential human repair kits for everything from severed spinal cords, damaged hearts, disabled pancreases, scarred livers, diseased brains and much more.

But actual treatments are mostly far off, and depend on intensive research to develop clinical applications. In the United States, government-funded research into embryonic stem cells has been strictly limited under President Bush, who opposes destroying human embryos for scientific pursuits.

Ancient medicine put to the test

By Maura Lerner
MCT

MINNEAPOLIS — A few years ago, Eric Buenz came across a 17th-century book on herbal medicine.

And he wondered if its ancient folk wisdom could withstand a little scientific scrutiny.

So Buenz, then a graduate student at the Mayo Clinic, and a colleague decided to test a tree extract that the book claimed could cure diarrhea.

What they found was that the potion, made from the nuts of

the atun tree, works a lot like an antibiotic, killing various types of bacteria.

And in a report in the *British Medical Journal* this month, they explain how a 300-year-old text by a Dutch naturalist named Rumphius could help scientists in their search for new and better drugs.

"It was lost traditional knowledge," Buenz said.

Buenz, 29, traveled to Samoa to collect the nuts and consult with shamans. "And we tested it and it worked."

Mayo and the scientists have

obtained a patent on the medicinal properties of the atun tree nut, in hopes someone might develop it into a drug.

"Our findings," they wrote in the journal, "show that potential drugs can be identified by searching historical herbal texts."

In a way it's not surprising, because many prescription drugs come from natural substances, said Dr. Brent Bauer, one of the co-authors and director of the Mayo Clinic's complementary and integrative medicine program.

Possible genetic link to autism discovered

By Kawanza Newson
MCT

MILWAUKEE — In a new finding, University of Wisconsin-Madison researchers have documented changes in the brain's emotional center that may explain the social impairment seen in children with autism.

And in a separate French study, scientists identified a gene that may explain why some people develop autism.

The UW authors found that males with autism who spent the least time looking at a person's eyes in photographs had a much smaller amygdala — the almond-shaped danger-detecting region of the brain — than males without autism.

In addition, males with a small amygdala also had difficulty distinguishing any face showing an emotion from those with neutral expressions, researchers say.

"This is a great first step," said Stephen Rao, a professor of neurology and director of the functional imaging research center at the Medical College of Wisconsin, who was not involved in the study.

"We pick up a lot of emotions from our ability to distinguish facial expressions, so that's why eye-tracking is good," he said.

Still, more studies that demonstrate the exclusivity of the amygdala need to be done before more conclusions are made, Rao said.

Autism, the most common condition in a group of developmental disorders known as autism spectrum disorders, is a serious brain disorder that begins in infancy and prevents children from developing normally.

Common signs, which can range from mild to severe, include impaired social interaction, problems with verbal and non-verbal communication, and unusual, repetitive, or severely limited activities and interests.

For the UW study, researchers analyzed data from 54 males, including 28 with autism spectrum disorders, who were ages 8 to 25. The participants were tested using magnetic resonance imaging and an eye-tracking device to record where they looked.

Participants in the autism group who had a small amygdala were significantly slower to identify happy, angry or sad facial expressions and spent the least amount of time looking at eyes on the photos. It took these males 40 percent longer than those with the large amygdala to recognize the emotional facial expressions, and those with the largest amygdala spent about four times longer looking at

eyes than those with the smallest.

In a separate finding, a French study published online this month in *Nature Genetics* found that mutations in a gene called SHANK3 may explain why a small group of individuals developed autism spectrum disorders.

The protein encoded by SHANK3 interacts with other proteins called neuroligins, which have a role in brain signaling. Mutations in two of the genes encoding neuroligins have previously been found in a small number of individuals with autism.

The researchers looked for the SHANK3 gene in more than 200 people with the disorders and identified it in three families. In the first family, a large part of the gene was missing in a person with autism, resulting in that person's inability to speak and mental retardation. Two brothers with autism in the second family had a smaller portion of their gene missing. Both brothers had severely impaired speech and severe mental retardation. In the third family, a girl with autism had a deletion in SHANK3, while her brother, affected with a mild form of autism called Asperger syndrome, had an additional copy of SHANK3. The girl had severe language delay, while her brother was gifted in language development and had fluent speech.

Woman suffers seizures from musical tones

By Michael A. Bell
MCT

PASS CHRISTIAN, Miss. — Joy Oaks never imagined the faint sounds of a tiny boombox could kill her.

But when she hears music played at nearby Kimball's Seafood on Wednesday nights, her body sometimes breaks into violent convulsions and her eyes roll to the back of her head. And when the seizure ends, she stops breathing.

If she's not treated within minutes, the 43-year-old could die.

Oaks doesn't know exactly what medical condition she has, but a University of Mississippi professor said she likely suffers from musicogenic epilepsy — a disease so rare no medical records exist about how many people in the world have it.

Dr. Mech Sundaram, professor of neurology at the school's medical center, said only one of his 1,300 patients has the disorder. Certain music, certain tones, certain frequencies will precipitate or induce a seizure, he said.

Oaks' fiancé, Joe Kepfer, a detective in Bay St. Louis, Miss., filed a disturbing-the-peace charge against Darlene Kimball, owner of the restaurant and seafood market that has been a staple on the Coast since 1930. A warrant for her arrest was then issued.

THE BG NEWS SUDOKU

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7	1	6	8	1	9	7	4	5
2	5	1	4	2	6	9	8	3
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CONSTRUCTED: On the first day on the worksite Sophomore Katrina Caldwell, Junior Andrew Moore, and Sophomore Bobby Waltzer (clockwise from top) volunteered to assemble the roof of this New Orleans structure.

AID

From Page 1

December? We spent Sunday downtown, enjoying the New Orleans culture, food and shops. We explored the French Quarter, watched street performers and shopped in the French market. Together we dined on alligator and danced to blue grass music at Mulate's for dinner.

Day four: Gutting, as glamorous as it sounds

When a house is abandoned, filled with water and then left alone for 15 months, I've learned you can count on two things: a disastrous mess and smells you didn't even know existed.

On Monday morning, each work team was dropped off at a separate house and spent the entire day gutting.

I remember when my team, the Habitat Homies, opened the front door to our designated home for the first time. We all just stood there and stared at the interior of the house. Wall mirrors were shattered, couches were overturned and broken drywall covered the floor. That

was just the front room.

As we dug our way through the debris and cleared out the first room, we made our way into a seemingly endless series of other rooms that were all unlit and complete disasters.

After a lunch of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and canned FEMA water, some of us journeyed to the second story of the house, where we discovered the waterlines. About half way up the walls we could see the mold infesting the drywall from where floodwater lingered after Hurricane Katrina.

I had spent a week last summer gutting houses in New Orleans, but the second story of this house hit home more than the others before it. All of the rooms upstairs were the kids' bedrooms, and from what we could tell, they were all about our age. Old yearbooks, DVDs and trophies littered the carpet. We salvaged what we could and threw away what was destroyed.

After five exhausting hours of carrying furniture and tearing up carpet, we collapsed across the street as we waited for our bus to pick us up. We stared at the 7-foot trash pile that had

accumulated in the front lawn, proud of what we had accomplished.

Day five and six: Our habitat home

On Tuesday and Wednesday, we were fortunate enough to work with Habitat for Humanity in their Musicians Village where New Orleans musicians would live next door to families from the community.

So far, the Musicians Village was filled with roughly 30 brand new, brightly colored homes and had space for dozens more. Our job was to help take those homes from a dream to a reality.

My team was taken to a home with the framework pretty much completed, but still had a lot of work to be done. Once on site, we volunteered for different tasks and started our workday.

I volunteered to help with hurricane strips and braces.

Hammer the top of the metal strip into the top of the frame, bend the metal strip and then hammer it into a 90-degree angle.

And the people that thought they couldn't spend a day standing on the beams of an open roof? Well, they did. And people that had never used a power saw before? They spent the day cutting wood.

Our Habitat work showed us that every little thing does make a difference. We didn't finish our house, it's impossible to do that in two days, but we did help build a home for a family in need.

Day seven: And then the rains came...

When we went to bed on Wednesday night, it was raining. When we woke up on Thursday, it was still raining.

In fact, it was raining so hard that the backyard of Camp Hope was quickly becoming a lake.

Because of the rain, we missed the dedication of our Habitat

home, but had the opportunity to help out Camp Hope.

Each work team was given a task to help clean up camp, like sweeping the gym or cleaning the bathrooms. When that was finished, we were all asked to form an assembly line and help move some boxes of food from the kitchen to the front entrance.

Some boxes turned out to be a couple hundred of the heaviest boxes I've ever lifted and it turns out the kitchen and the front entrance are at opposite ends of Camp Hope.

I can't even count the number of times I heard someone say "only 10 more boxes" but 11 boxes later, we were still passing. In fact, two hours later, my arms were covered in bruises and we were still passing boxes.

But it was all worth it.

Why?

About half way through the box passing, someone started singing and then someone else joined in, and pretty soon we had sung every Christmas carol you can think of.

The look on the faces of the Camp Hope volunteers made it all worth it. They smiled, laughed, videotaped and hugged us, constantly thanking us for the holiday spirit.

So maybe I never wanted to see a box of canned tomatoes again, but we had brought holiday cheer to some of the people who needed it the most.

As the last box passed through the hands of those at the end of the line, the other hundred students rushed to the front entrance of Camp Hope, chanting:

"B-G!"

"S-U!"

"B-G!"

"S-U!"

In the end, it was 100 BG voices chanting "Ziggy Ziggy Zoomba," proud of what they were able to accomplish as a team. 112 voices. 112 Falcons.

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SIGN UP TODAY



ALAINA BUZAS | THE BG NEWS

MURAL: Each group that worked in Habitat's Musician's Village was asked to create a panel to be placed in a future Community Center. Freshman Jessi Kulik (left) and Senior Jessica Price volunteered to design BG's panel.



JORDAN FLOWER | THE BG NEWS

EARLY BIRD: One of the smaller daily ride groups left early in the morning for a full day of fun in the snow.



JORDAN FLOWER | THE BG NEWS

TOP OF THE WORLD: A hot air balloon floats over the Yampa valley near the base of Mt. Werner. Gorgeous views like this were not uncommon.



ALAINA BUZAS | THE BG NEWS

FRAMED: When building a house, every little bit counts, each job is as important as the next. To prepare for the siding to be put on, Sophomore Laura Saavedra hammered in thin boards around the door frame.



ALAINA BUZAS | THE BG NEWS

STRAPPED IN: Katherine Stetz tightens her bindings on her board as she gets ready to ride the slopes. Some students rented from a local rental shop but most brought their own gear.



JORDAN FLOWER | THE BG NEWS

TOGETHER: Sixty-eight students went on this year's trip to Colorado Springs which is up slightly from the past few years.

COLORADO

From Page 1

them on the way there.

According to the Federal Department of Transportation, a bus driver can drive for 10 hours before having to stop. However, before they can drive another 10 hours they must rest for eight hours. Therefore, we actually had three drivers to get us to Steamboat Springs. The first driver drove us all the way to Peru, Ill., where we picked up our second driver who drove us to Kearney, Neb. In Kearney, Jurgen Moose boarded the bus and drove us all the way to Steamboat Springs.

Sunday

Our first day we were on the 10,568 foot Mt. Werner to ride some of the 2,939 acres of slopes. There was a 3,668 foot vertical drop from the top of the mountain to the ski base.

"I've skied before, but it's completely different out here," said Bridget Haley, freshman.

In comparison, Mad River Mountain in Ohio is only 144 acres according to its Web site. With all that space on the mountain it's hard to say if the mountain is ever full. And no one in our group ever waited more than five minutes for a lift.

Monday

Another upside to the trip were the living conditions — we didn't stay in the local resort hotel, we stayed in condos. Each condo had a full kitchen, and one or two bedrooms, with normally four people to a condo.

Another great gathering point was the outdoor hot tub. Every night it was packed with people, designed to sit 10 people there were more like 15 to 20 on some nights. Most students were up late hanging out, gaming or out on the town. But everyone was up early, around 6:30

a.m., the next day to hit the freshly groomed slopes.

Tuesday

"Flippin' awesome," Stetz said about the trip so far.

No one had yet to complain about anything on the trip. One of the routes I rode was called "Why Not" and is the longest run on the mountain at three miles. It runs around the east side of the mountain giving riders a full view of the Yampa River Valley.

Other runs like "Vagabond," "Heavenly Daze" and "Vogue" offer gorgeous views of the resorts and surrounding mountains. Runs like "Christmas Tree Bowl" or the entire "Morning Side Park" offer runs that give a rider more of a back country feel while still being covered by the ski patrol. And for the first time since we had been there, it started snowing.

Wednesday

Both snowboarders and skiers want fresh powder in the morning. It started snowing heavily last night. We woke up to it still snowing on top of around one foot of accumulation. At this point, Cavins began worrying about the trip home, but frustration was quickly lost in champagne powder bliss.

It snowed all day long at a constant heavy speed and by 5 p.m. there was another foot of snow on the ground. Highways in the area were shut down, and the Rabbit Ears Pass that we came through to arrive was closed. The other pass through the mountains was two hours north at Fort Collins. The morning would further tell us how we should go.

Thursday

The snow continued to fall all night and into early morning. We had to be out of the Condos by 9 a.m. which wasn't going to be a problem until the storm hit. We went downtown to kill time and allow road crews to do

their job, clearing the snow. We left downtown at noon and started our soon to be 36 hour trip back. What is normally a two hour drive into Denver took us five hours to make it to Golden, where we stopped for the night.

Making it to Golden was an ordeal all in itself. About an hour into the trip one of the chains that our driver attached before we left broke and started banging against the side of the bus. As we made it to the inter change to get on I-76 we stopped once more for food.

Once we were on I-76 the roads weren't that bad in most areas but some were icy, snow inundated roads threatened to stop us from making it to our destination within our time constraints. Four hours into our trip we had reached Golden, Colo., home of the first ever Coors brewery.

We were checked into a Holiday Inn and were told that because of the storm all the restaurants in the area were closed, the hotel was going to provide us with dinner that night and we were to be on the bus by 5 a.m. the next morning.

Friday

Friday morning we all loaded back on the bus with a very tired silence. Most people went back to sleep, some stayed up and read or watched movies on their laptops. Once we made it past Denver the roads seemed to clear up but the remains of the storm were very present. Tracks were still in the snow of where cars had passed by and some trucks were still flipped by the side of the roads.

We drove until around 9 a.m. and stopped for food. The rest of the trip went without a hitch, we pulled into Bowling Green at 6 a.m. the Saturday before Christmas. We all parted with happy memories of a great trip.

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SHAWNDA HESS | THE BG NEWS

Students prepare for the semester ahead

STOCKING UP ON SUPPLIES: Students wait in long lines at the University bookstore.

Creating real life adventures

By Jackie Burrell
MCT

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. — Hearts hammering, 40 blue-tagged runners raced through the night, darting frenetically through hotel lobbies, weaving down increasingly empty streets and crawling, Ninja-style, through Golden Gate Park to flee an ever-escalating number of pursuers.

The adrenaline rush only subsided when they crested the last hill and caught sight of the roaring bonfire and glistening surf of Ocean Beach, and smelled the unmistakable sweet scent of s'mores.

There was a time when the words "alternate reality" con-

jured up visions of friendless geeks clutching game controllers. But there's another world of alternate reality where games like SFZero happen in the real world, not on-screen.

It's a world of untrammelled creativity, where city plazas and telephone booths become playing fields, players become creative superheroes, and suddenly, adventure is everywhere.

"It makes the world magical," said Kelly Revak, a folklore masters student at the University of California-Berkeley and one of SFZero's top-scoring players.

This magical world emerged five years ago, when some creative game designers challenged folks obsessed by video games like "Doom" to get up off the

couch and go outside.

Using online instructions, the so-called puppetmasters conjured up physical challenges and insane puzzles that no one could solve alone, and wrapped up the package in a compelling narrative arc.

Suddenly there was a new genre that encouraged intellectual collaboration and creativity, and built far-flung, but tight-knit communities. And it did so using nearly every recent tech trend, from wireless communication to global positioning technology, social networking and YouTube.

"It puts the virtual into the reality," said Berkeley game devotee Jean Bascorn, "instead of the reality into the virtual."

Americans prefer getting news from TV instead of the Internet, study says

By Frank Davies
MCT

WASHINGTON — The next Bill Gates is more likely to come from China or Japan than the United States, according to a poll of Americans' Internet attitudes released last Wednesday.

Most Americans polled also

think that new camera and Internet technologies are turning the United States "into a nation of voyeurs and paparazzi."

And by a 2-to-1 margin, Americans say they would rather watch an old-fashioned TV evening news report's coverage of an event than the sort of "citizen video" that has become increasingly popular.

The nationwide poll of 1,203 adults was conducted this month by Zogby International for a Washington firm, 463 Communications, that works with the tech industry. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.9 percentage points.

An overwhelming majority of those polled (83 percent) believes a typical 12-year-old knows more about the Internet than the average member of Congress. That may reflect YouTube's widely viewed clip of Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, describing the Internet as "a series of tubes."

But even with YouTube's popularity, most Americans still favor a traditional news source such

as an evening news broadcast over citizen videos for coverage of the same event. One out of four younger Americans (ages 25 to 34) would prefer the video over conventional news coverage.

Both Republicans and Democrats by a 7-to-3 margin would prefer an evening news report, while independents were slightly more willing to choose a citizen video.

Most respondents were optimistic about the reach of the Internet, with a majority saying that within 10 years every place in the world will have online access.

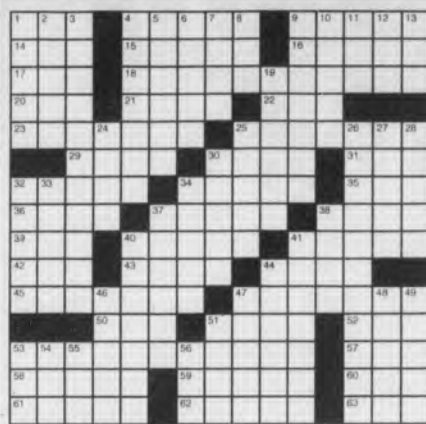
But they were somewhat pessimistic on whether the United States will be in the forefront of business dominance.

Participants were given a choice of six countries that "the next Bill Gates is likely to come from." First choice was China (26.7 percent), followed by Japan (22.4 percent), the United States (20.8 percent), India (13 percent), Russia (2.1 percent) and Brazil (.4 percent).

The Daily Crossword Fix

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- 1 Change shape
2 Blazing
3 Informer
4 Bowmen
5 Accomplice
6 Sharif and Bradley
7 Deer head?
8 Negative link
9 "...and ... hangs a tale"
10 Seraglio
11 Election winners
12 Speak tenderly
13 Relatives
14 Frequently, to a bard
15 Son of Montague
16 Southeast Asian capital
17 Spanish river
18 Meeting moderator
19 Fourth of July event
20 Old hand
21 Chilean cape
22 "Roses ... red..."
23 Assistants
24 Animal quarters
25 Pickup
26 Third-string player
27 Shaping machine
28 Anesthetic option
29 Egyptian hub
30 Pulsate
31 Bit of an uproar
32 Dixie breakfast fare
33 Rehearsal
34 On the crest
35 Pastry entrees
36 Declaration
37 Kitchen utensil

ACROSS

- 1 Grad. degrees
4 Future oak
9 Boneheaded
14 Frequently, to a bard
15 Son of Montague
16 Southeast Asian capital
17 Spanish river
18 Meeting moderator
20 Old hand
21 Chilean cape
22 "Roses ... red..."
23 Assistants
24 Animal quarters
25 Pickup
26 Third-string player
27 Shaping machine
28 Anesthetic option
29 Egyptian hub
30 Pulsate
31 Bit of an uproar
32 Dixie breakfast fare
33 Rehearsal
34 On the crest
35 Pastry entrees
36 Declaration
37 Kitchen utensil

- 39 Future school?
40 Idiosyncrasy
41 Different
42 Cry of discovery
43 "Do ... others as..."
44 Increase
45 Tosses back and forth
47 Plains tribe
50 Collector's French coin
51 Petty quarrel
52 Unrefined
53 Boob tube addict
57 Wire thickness measure
58 Off-the-wall
59 Brave soul
60 ... out (supplement)
61 ... on (victimizes)
62 Access
63 Tiresome grind

ANSWERS



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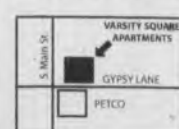
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